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# JOURNALS

OF

## **The American Congress:**

**From 1774 to 1788.**

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**IN FOUR VOLUMES.**

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**VOLUME I:**

*From September 5, 1774, to December 31, 1776, inclusive.*

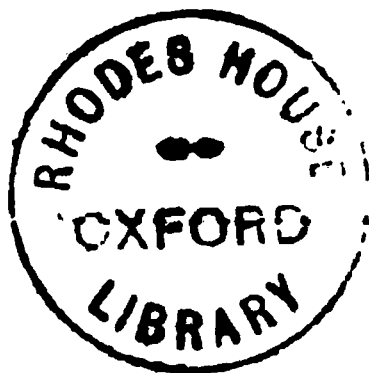
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**WASHINGTON:**

**PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY WAY AND GIDEON.**

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**1823.**



# JOURNALS OF CONGRESS,

## 1774.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1774.

A NUMBER of the delegates, chosen and appointed by the several colonies and provinces in North-America, to meet and hold a Congress at Philadelphia, assembled at the Carpenter's Hall :

### PRESENT :

#### From NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

*Major John Sullivan, esq.*  
*Colonel Nathaniel Folsom, esq.*

#### From MASSACHUSETTS-BAY :

*The hon. Thomas Cushing, esq.*  
*Mr. Samuel Adams,*  
*John Adams, esq.*  
*Robert Treat Paine, esq.*

#### From RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS :

*The hon. Stephen Hopkins, esq.*  
*The hon. Samuel Ward, esq.*

#### From CONNECTICUT :

*The hon. Eliphalet Dyer, esq.*  
*The hon. Roger Sherman, esq.*  
*Silas Deane, esq.*

#### From THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, AND OTHER COUNTIES IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW-YORK :

*James Duane, esq.*  
*John Jay, esq.*  
*Philip Livingston, esq.*  
*Isaac Low, esq.*

#### From THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW-YORK :

*Colonel William Floyd, esq.*

#### From NEW-JERSEY :

*James Kinsey, esq.*  
*William Livingston, esq.*  
*John Dehart, esq.*  
*Stephen Crane, esq.*  
*Richard Smith, esq.*

#### From PENNSYLVANIA :

*The hon. Joseph Galloway, esq.*  
*Samuel Rhodes, esq.*  
*Thomas Mifflin, esq.*  
*Charles Humphreys, esq.*  
*John Morton, esq.*  
*Edward Biddle, esq.*

#### From NEW-CASTLE, KENT AND SUSSEX, ON DELAWARE :

*The hon. Caesar Rodney, esq.*  
*Thomas M'Kean, esq.*  
*George Read, esq.*

#### From MARYLAND :

*Robert Goldsborough, esq.*  
*William Paca, esq.*  
*Samuel Chase, esq.*

#### From VIRGINIA :

*The hon. Peyton Randolph, esq.*  
*George Washington, esq.*  
*Patrick Henry, esq.*  
*Richard Bland, esq.*  
*Benjamin Harrison, esq.*  
*Edmund Pendleton, esq.*

#### From SOUTH-CAROLINA :

*Henry Middleton, esq.*  
*John Rutledge, esq.*  
*Christopher Gadsden, esq.*  
*Thomas Lynch, esq.*  
*Edward Rutledge, esq.*

The Congress proceeded to the choice of a President, when the hon. Peyton Randolph, esq. was unanimously elected.

Mr. Charles Thomson was unanimously chosen Secretary.

The gentlemen from the several colonies produced their respective credentials, which were read and approved as follows :

PROVINCE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

At a meeting of the deputies appointed by the several towns in this province, held at Exeter, in the county of Rockingham, 21st July, 1774, for the election of delegates, on behalf of this province, to join the General Congress proposed : Present 85 members :

The hon. JOHN WENTWORTH, esq. in the chair.

Voted, that major John Sullivan, and col. Nathaniel Folsom, esqrs. be appointed and empowered, as delegates, on the part of this province, to attend and assist in the General Congress of delegates from the other colonies, at such time and place as may be appointed, to devise, consult, and adopt such measures, as may have the most likely tendency to extricate the colonies from their present difficulties ; to secure and perpetuate their rights, liberties, and privileges, and to restore that peace, harmony, and mutual confidence, which once happily subsisted between the parent country, and her colonies.

J. WENTWORTH, *Chairman.*

PROVINCE OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY :

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *June 17, 1774.*

This house having duly considered, and being deeply affected with the unhappy differences, which have long subsisted, and are increasing, between Great Britain and the American colonies, do resolve : that a meeting of committees from the several colonies on this continent, is highly expedient and necessary, to consult upon the present state of the colonies, and the miseries to which they are and must be reduced, by the operation of certain acts of parliament respecting America, and to deliberate and determine upon wise and proper measures, to be by them recommended to all the colonies, for the recovery and establishment of their just rights and liberties, civil and religious, and the restoration of union and harmony between Great Britain and the colonies, most ardently desired by all good men : Therefore, resolved, that the hon. James Bowdoin, esq. the hon. Thomas Cushing, esq. Mr. Samuel Adams, John Adams and Robert Treat Paine, esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed a committee on the part of this province, for the purposes aforesaid, any three of whom to be a quorum ; to meet such committees or delegates from the other colonies, as have been or may be appointed, either by their respective houses of burgesses, or representatives, or by convention, or by the committees of correspondence appointed by the respective houses of assembly, in the city of Philadelphia, or any other place that shall be judged most suitable by the committee, on the 1st day of September next ; and that the speaker of the house be directed, in a letter to the speakers of the houses of burgesses or representatives in the several colonies, to inform them of the substance of these resolves.

SAMUEL ADAMS, *Clerk.*

RHODE-ISLAND :

By the hon. Joseph Wanton, esq. governor, captain-general, and commander in chief of and over the English colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, in New-England in America.

*To the hon. Stephen Hopkins, esq. and the hon. Samuel Ward, esq. Greeting :*

Whereas the general assembly of the colony aforesaid, have nominated and appointed you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Samuel Ward, to represent the people of this colony in General Congress of Representatives from this and the other colonies, at such time and place as should be agreed upon by the

major part of the committees appointed, or to be appointed by the colonies in general; I do therefore hereby authorize, empower, and commissionate you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Samuel Ward, to repair to the city of Philadelphia, it being the place agreed upon by the major part of the colonies; and there, in behalf of this colony, to meet and join with the commissioners or delegates from the other colonies, in consulting upon proper measures to obtain a repeal of the several acts of the British parliament, for levying taxes upon his majesty's subjects in America, without their consent, and particularly an act lately passed for blocking up the port of Boston, and upon proper measures to establish the rights and liberties of the colonies, upon a just and solid foundation, agreeable to the instructions given you by the general assembly.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the said colony, this 10th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1774, and the 14th of the reign  
[L. s.] of his most sacred majesty George the third, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, &c.

By his honour's command,  
HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

J. WANTON.

#### CONNECTICUT:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COLONY OF CONNECTICUT,  
*June 3d, 1774.*

Whereas a Congress of commissioners from the several British colonies in America, is proposed by some of our neighbouring colonies, and thought necessary; and whereas it may be found expedient that such Congress should be convened before the next sessions of this assembly:

*Resolved*, by this house, that the committee of correspondence be, and they are hereby empowered, on application to them made, or from time to time, as may be found necessary, to appoint a suitable number to attend such Congress, or convention of commissioners, or committees of the several colonies in British America, and the persons thus to be chosen shall be, and they are hereby directed, in behalf of this colony, to attend such Congress; to consult and advise on proper measures for advancing the best good of the colonies, and such conferences, from time to time, to report to this house.

A true extract and copy from the Journal of the House.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Clerk*.

*Colony of Connecticut, ss.*

NEW-LONDON, *July 13th, 1774.*

At a meeting of the committee of correspondence for this colony:

The hon. EBENEZER SILLIMAN, esq. in the chair:

The hon. Eliphalet Dyer, the hon. William Samuel Johnston, Erastus Wolcott, Silas Deane, and Richard Law, esqrs. were nominated, pursuant to the act of the hon. House of Representatives of the said colony, at their sessions in May last, either three of which are hereby authorized and empowered, in behalf of this colony, to attend the General Congress of the colonies, proposed to be held at Philadelphia, on the first day of September next, or at such other time and place as shall be agreed on by the colonies, to consult and advise with the commissioners or committees of the several English colonies in America, on proper measures for advancing the best good of the colonies.

*Signed*, Ebenezer Silliman, William Williams, Benjamin Payne, Erastus Wolcott, Joseph Trumbull, Samuel H. Parsons, Nathaniel Wales, jun. Silas Deane.

HARTFORD, *August*, 1774.

At a meeting of the committee of correspondence for this colony :

ERASTUS WOLCOTT, Chairman.

The hon. William Samuel Johnston, Erastus Wolcott, and Richard Law, esqrs. nominated by this committee at New-London, on the 13th of July last, as persons proper to attend the General Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, on the first of September next, as by said appointment, being unable, by reason of previous engagements and the state of their health, to attend said Congress, on behalf of this colony ; the hon. Roger Sherman, and Joseph Trumbull, esqrs. were nominated in the place of the aforesaid gentlemen, as persons proper to attend said Congress, in behalf of this colony, either of which are empowered, with the hon. Eliphalet Dyer, and Silas Deane, esqrs. for that purpose.

*Signed*, William Williams, Benjamin Payne, Joseph Trumbull, Nathaniel Wales, jun. Samuel H. Parsons, Samuel Bishop.

NEW-YORK :

By duly certified polls, taken by proper persons, in seven wards, it appears that James Duane, John Jay, Philip Livingston, Isaac Low, and John Alsop, esqrs. were elected as delegates for the city and county of New-York, to attend the Congress at Philadelphia, the first day of September next ; and at a meeting of the committees of several districts in the county of West-Chester, the same gentlemen were appointed to represent that county ; also by a letter from Jacob Lansing, jun. chairman, in behalf of the committee for Albany, it appears, that that city and county had adopted the same for their delegates. By another letter, it appears, that the committee from the several districts in the county of Dutchess, had likewise adopted the same as delegates to represent that county in Congress, and that committees of other towns approve of them as their delegates.

By a writing duly attested, it appears, the county of Suffolk, in the colony of New-York, have appointed colonel William Floyd, to represent them in Congress.

NEW-JERSEY :

*To James Kinsey, William Livingston, John Dehart, Stephen Crane, and Richard Smith, esqrs. each and every of you :*

The committees, appointed by the several counties of the colony of New-Jersey, to nominate deputies, to represent the same in General Congress of deputies, from the other colonies in America, convened at the city of New-Brunswick, have nominated and appointed, and do hereby nominate and appoint you, and each of you, deputies, to represent the colony of New-Jersey, in the said General Congress.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the chairman of the said several committees here met, have hereunto set their hands, this twenty-third day of July, in the fourteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lord king George the third, and in the year of our Lord 1774.

*Signed*, William P. Smith, Jacob Ford, John Moores, Robert Johnson, Robert Field, Robert Friend Price, Peter Zabriskie, Samuel Tucker, Edward Taylor, Hendrick Fisher, Archibald Stewart, Thomas Anderson, Abia Brown, Mark Thompson.

PENNSYLVANIA :

*Extract from votes of assembly.*

FRIDAY, *July 22d*, 1774, *A. M.*

The committee of the whole house, taking into their most serious consideration, the unfortunate differences which have long subsisted between Great-

Britain and the American colonies, and being greatly increased by the operation and effects of divers late acts of the British parliament:

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That there is an absolute necessity that a Congress of deputies from the several colonies, be held as soon as conveniently may be, to consult together upon the present unhappy state of the colonies, and to form and adopt a plan for the purposes of obtaining redress of American grievances, ascertaining American rights upon the most solid and constitutional principles, and for establishing that union and harmony between Great-Britain and the colonies, which is indispensably necessary to the welfare and happiness of both.

EODEM DIE, P. M.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolve from the committee of the whole house, and, after some debate thereon, adopting and confirming the same,

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That the hon. Joseph Galloway, speaker; Samuel Rhoads, Thomas Mifflin, Charles Humphreys, John Morton, George Ross, and Edward Biddle, esqrs, be and they are hereby appointed a committee, on the part of this province, for the purposes aforesaid, and that they, or any four of them, do meet such committees or delegates from the other colonies, as have been or may be appointed, either by their respective Houses of Representatives, or by convention, or by the provincial or colony committees, at such time and place, as shall be generally agreed on by such committee.

THE THREE COUNTIES NEW-CASTLE, KENT, AND SUSSEX, ON DELAWARE:

August 1, 1774, A. M.

The representatives of the freemen of the government of the counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, met at New-Castle, in pursuance of circular letters from the speaker of the house, who was requested to write and forward the same to the members of assembly, by the committees of correspondence for the several counties aforesaid, chosen and appointed for that among other purposes, by the freeholders and freemen of the said counties respectively: and having chosen a chairman, and read the resolves of the three respective counties, and sundry letters from the committees of correspondence along the continent, they unanimously entered into the following resolution, viz:

We, the representatives aforesaid, by virtue of the power delegated to us, as aforesaid, taking into our most serious consideration the several acts of the British parliament, for restraining manufactures in his majesty's colonies and plantations in North-America,—for taking away the property of the colonists without their participation or consent,—for the introduction of the arbitrary powers of excise into the customs here,—for the making all revenue causes triable without jury, and under the decision of a single dependent judge,—for the trial, in England, of persons accused of capital crimes, committed in the colonies,—for the shutting up the port of Boston,—for new-modelling the government of the Massachusetts-Bay, and the operation of the same on the property, liberty, and lives of the colonists; and also considering, that most eligible mode of determining upon the premises, and of endeavouring to procure relief and redress of our grievances, would have been by us assembled in a legislative capacity, but that as the house had adjourned to the 30th day of September next, and it is not to be expected, that his honour the governor would call us, by writs of summons, on this occasion, having refused to do the like in his other province of Pennsylvania; the next most proper method, of answering the expectations and desires of our constituents, and of contributing our aid to the general cause of America, is to appoint commissioners or deputies in behalf of the people of this government, to meet and act with those appointed by the other provinces, in General Congress; and we do, therefore,

unanimously nominate and appoint Cæsar Rodney, Thomas M'Kean, and George Read, esqrs. or any two of them, deputies, on the part and behalf of this government, in a general continental Congress, proposed to be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the first Monday in September next, or at any other time or place that may be generally agreed on, then and there, to consult and advise with the deputies from the other colonies, and to determine upon all such prudent and lawful measures, as may be judged most expedient for the colonies immediately and unitedly to adopt, in order to obtain relief for an oppressed people, and the redress of our general grievances.

Signed by order of the convention,

CÆSAR RODNEY, *Chairman.*

#### MARYLAND:

At a meeting of the committees appointed by the several counties of the province of Maryland, at the city of Annapolis, the 22d day of June, 1774, and continued by adjournment, from day to day, till the 25th of the same month:

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, esq. in the chair:

JOHN DUCKET, clerk:

*Resolved*, That Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Johnson, jun. Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, and Samuel Chase, esqrs. or any two or more of them, be deputies for this province, to attend a General Congress of deputies from the colonies, at such time and place as may be agreed on, to effect one general plan of conduct, operating on the commercial connection of the colonies with the mother country, for the relief of Boston, and preservation of American liberty.

#### VIRGINIA:

MONDAY THE 1ST OF AUGUST, *in the year of our Lord*, 1774.

At a general meeting of delegates from the different counties in this colony, convened in the city of Williamsburgh, to take under their consideration the present critical and alarming situation of the continent of North-America:

HON. PEYTON RANDOLPH, esq. in the chair:

It was unanimously resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting, that it will be highly conducive to the security and happiness of the British empire, that a General Congress of deputies from all the colonies, assemble as soon as the nature of their situations will admit, to consider of the most proper and effectual manner of so operating on the commercial connexion of the colonies with the mother country, as to procure redress for the much injured province of Massachusetts-Bay, to secure British America from the ravage and ruin of arbitrary taxes, and speedily to procure the return of that harmony and union, so beneficial to the whole empire, and so ardently desired by all British America.

FRIDAY, *August 5*, 1774.

The meeting proceeded to the choice of delegates, to represent this colony in General Congress, when the hon. Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, George Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison, and Edmund Pendleton, esqrs. were appointed for that purpose.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA:

IN THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, TUESDAY, *the 2d day of August*, 1774.

Colonel Powel acquainted the house, that during the recess of this house, viz: on the sixth, seventh, and eighth days of July last, at a general meeting

of the inhabitants of this colony, they having under consideration the acts of parliament lately passed with regard to the port of Boston and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, as well as other American grievances, had nominated and appointed the honourable Henry Middleton, John Rutledge, Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsden, and Edward Rutledge, esqrs. deputies on the part and behalf of this colony, to meet the deputies of the other colonies of North America, in General Congress, the first Monday in September next at Philadelphia, or at any other time and place that may be generally agreed on, there to consider the acts lately passed, and bills depending in parliament with regard to the port of Boston and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, which acts and bills in the precedent and consequences affect the whole continent of America—also the grievances under which America labours, by reason of the several acts of parliament that impose taxes or duties for raising a revenue, and lay unnecessary restraints and burdens on trade; and of the statutes, parliamentary acts, and royal instructions, which make an invidious distinction between his majesty's subjects in Great-Britain and America, with full power and authority to concert, agree to, and effectually prosecute such legal measures, as in the opinion of the said deputies, and of the deputies so to be assembled, shall be most likely to obtain a repeal of the said acts, and a redress of those grievances: and thereupon moved that this house do resolve to recognize, ratify, and confirm the said appointment of the deputies for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That this house do recognize, ratify, and confirm the appointment of the said deputies for the purposes mentioned in the said motion.

ATTESTED,

THOMAS FARR, *jun. clerk.*

TUESDAY, September 6, 1774, *A. M.*

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Present:* The same members as yesterday, and moreover, from the colony of Virginia, Richard Henry Lee, esquire.

The Congress, resuming the consideration of rules of conduct to be observed in debating and determining the questions, that come under consideration,

*Resolved,* That in determining questions in this Congress, each colony or province shall have one vote.—The Congress not being possessed of, or at present able to procure proper materials for ascertaining the importance of each colony.

*Resolved,* That no person shall speak more than twice on the same point, without leave of the Congress.

*Resolved,* That no question shall be determined the day, on which it is agitated and debated, if any one of the colonies desire the determination to be postponed to another day.

*Resolved,* That the door be kept shut during the time of business, and that the members consider themselves under the strongest obligations of honour, to keep the proceedings secret, until the majority shall direct them to be made public.

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to state the rights of the colonies in general, the several instances in which those rights are violated or infringed, and the means most proper to be pursued for obtaining a restoration of them.

*Ordered,* That the appointment of the committee, and the number of which it shall consist, be deferred until to-morrow.

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to examine and report the several statutes, which affect the trade and manufactures of the colonies.

Same order as above respecting the appointment and number of this committee.

**Resolved**, That the reverend Mr. Duche be desired to open the Congress to-morrow morning with prayers, at the Carpenter's Hall, at nine o'clock.

Thomas Johnson, jun. esq. one of the delegates from Maryland, attended and took his seat.

Extract from the minutes of the directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, dated August 31st, 1774,—directed to the President, was read, as follows :

“ Upon motion, ordered,

“ That the librarian furnish the gentlemen, who are to meet in Congress, with the use of such books as they may have occasion for, during their sitting, taking a receipt for them.

Signed by order of the directors,

WILLIAM ATTMORE, *Secretary.*”

**Ordered**, That the thanks of the Congress be returned to the directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, for their obliging order.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, September 7, 1774, *A. M.*

Agreeable to the resolve of yesterday, the meeting was opened with prayers by the reverend Mr. Duche.

**Voted**, That the thanks of the Congress be given to Mr. Duche, by Mr. Cushing and Mr. Ward, for performing divine service, and for the excellent prayer, which he composed and delivered on the occasion.

The Congress, taking into consideration the appointment of the committees, a vote was taken on the number of which the first committee should consist, and, by a great majority, resolved that it consist of two from each of the colonies, as follows ;

<i>New-Hampshire</i> , Major John Sullivan, and Colonel Folsom.	<i>Pennsylvania</i> , Mr. Joseph Galloway, and Mr. Edward Biddle.
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i> , Mr. Samuel Adams, and Mr. John Adams.	<i>Delaware government</i> , Mr. Caesar Rodney, and Mr. M'Kean.
<i>Rhode-Island</i> , Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Ward.	<i>Maryland</i> , Mr. Thomas Johnson, and Mr. Goldsborough.
<i>Connecticut</i> , Colonel Dyer, and Mr. Sherman.	<i>Virginia</i> , Mr. Lee, and Mr. Pendleton.
<i>New-York</i> , Mr. James Duane, and Mr. John Jay.	<i>South-Carolina</i> , Mr. Lynch, and Mr. J. Rutledge.
<i>New-Jersey</i> , Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Dehart.	

Agreed, that the second committee consist of one chosen from each colony, as follows :

<i>New-Hampshire</i> ,	Mr. Sullivan.	<i>Pennsylvania</i> ,	Mr. Mifflin.
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i> ,	Mr. Cushing.	<i>Delaware government</i> ,	Mr. Read.
<i>Rhode-Island</i> ,	Mr. Hopkins.	<i>Maryland</i> ,	Mr. Chase.
<i>Connecticut</i> ,	Mr. Deane.	<i>Virginia</i> ,	Mr. Henry.
<i>New-York</i> ,	Mr. Low.	<i>South-Carolina</i> ,	Mr. Gadsden.
<i>New-Jersey</i> ,	Mr. Kinsey.		

**Ordered**, That Isaac Lefevre, and James Lynch, be employed as door-keepers and messengers to this Congress.

**Resolved**, That the President may adjourn the Congress from day to day, when he finds there is no business prepared to be laid before them, and may, when he finds it necessary, call them together before the time to which they may stand adjourned.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

The President, agreeably to the resolve of the seventh instant, adjourned the Congress from day to day until

### MONDAY, September 12, 1774.

The Congress met.

Matthew Tilghman, esq. one of the delegates from Maryland, appeared and took his seat.

No business being prepared for the Congress, the President adjourned it until Tuesday, and from Tuesday until

WEDNESDAY, *September 14, 1774, A. M.*

William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, esquires, two of the deputies from North-Carolina, attended the Congress, and produced their credentials, as follows :

*North-Carolina*, at a general meeting of deputies of the inhabitants of this province, Newburn, the 25th day of August, 1774 :

*Resolved*, That we approve of the proposal of a General Congress, to be held in the city of Philadelphia, on the twentieth day of September next, then and there to deliberate upon the present state of British America, and to take such measures, as they may deem prudent, to effect the purpose of describing with certainty the rights of Americans, repairing the breach made in those rights, and for guarding them for the future from any such violations done under the sanction of public authority.

*Resolved*, That Willian Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and Richard Caswell, esquires, and every of them, be deputies to attend such Congress, and they are hereby invested with such powers, as may make any acts done by them, or consent given in behalf of this province, obligatory in honour upon every inhabitant hereof, who is not an alien to his country's good, and an apostate to the liberties of America.

Signed,  
Attested,

JOHN HERVEY, *Moderator*  
ANDREW KNOX, *Clerk*.

The above being read and approved, the deputies took their seats.

Henry Wisner, a delegate from the county of Orange, in the colony of New-York, appeared at Congress, and produced a certificate of his election by the said county, which being read and approved, he took his seat in Congress as a deputy for the colony of New-York.

George Ross, one of the delegates for the province of Pennsylvania, and John Alsop, esq. one of the delegates for the colony of New-York, appeared and took their seats in Congress.

*Ordered*, That William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, esqrs. from North-Carolina, be added to the committee appointed to state the rights of the colonies.

*Ordered*, That William Hooper, esq. be one of the committee appointed to report the statutes, which affect the trade, &c. of the colonies.

The delegates from the province of Massachusetts-Bay, agreeable to a request from the joint committees of every town and district in the county of Middlesex, in the said province, communicated to the Congress the proceedings of those committees at Concord, on the 30th and 31st days of August last, which were read.

Adjourned until to-morrow at nine o'clock.

No business being prepared, the Congress was adjourned from day to day, until Saturday morning, at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, *September 17, 1774, A. M.*

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Richard Caswell, esq. one of the deputies from North-Carolina, appeared, and took his seat in Congress.

The resolutions entered into by the delegates from the several towns and districts in the county of Suffolk, in the province of the Massachusetts-Bay, on Tuesday the 6th of September, and their address to his excellency governor Gage, dated the 9th, were laid before the Congress, and are as follows:—

At a meeting of the delegates of every town and district in the county of Suffolk, on Tuesday the 6th of September, at the house of Mr. Richard Woodward, of Dedham, and, by adjournment, at the house of Mr.——Vose, of Mfl:

ton, on Friday the 9th instant, Joseph Palmer, esq. being chosen moderator, and William Thompson, esq. clerk, a committee was chosen to bring in a report to the convention, and the following being several times read, and put paragraph by paragraph, was unanimously voted, viz.

Whereas the power but not the justice, the vengeance but not the wisdom of Great-Britain, which of old persecuted, scourged, and exiled our fugitive parents from their native shores, now pursues us, their guiltless children, with unrelenting severity: And whereas, this, then savage and uncultivated desert, was purchased by the toil and treasure, or acquired by the blood and valour of those our venerable progenitors; to us they bequeathed the dearbought inheritance, to our care and protection they consigned it, and the most sacred obligations are upon us to transmit the glorious purchase, unfettered by power, unclogged with shackles, to our innocent and beloved offspring. On the fortitude, on the wisdom and on the exertions of this important day, is suspended the fate of this new world, and of unborn millions. If a boundless extent of continent, swarming with millions, will tamely submit to live, move and have their being at the arbitrary will of a licentious minister, they basely yield to voluntary slavery, and future generations shall load their memories with incessant execrations.—On the other hand, if we arrest the hand which would ransack our pockets, if we disarm the parricide which points the dagger to our bosoms, if we nobly defeat that fatal edict which proclaims a power to frame laws for us in all cases whatsoever, thereby entailing the endless and numberless curses of slavery upon us, our heirs and their heirs forever; if we successfully resist that unparalleled usurpation of unconstitutional power, whereby our capital is robbed of the means of life; whereby the streets of Boston are thronged with military executioners; whereby our coasts are lined and harbours crowded with ships of war; whereby the charter of the colony, that sacred barrier against the encroachments of tyranny, is mutilated and, in effect, annihilated; whereby a murderous law is framed to shelter villains from the hands of justice; whereby the unalienable and inestimable inheritance, which we derived from nature, the constitution of Britain, and the privileges warranted to us in the charter of the province, is totally wrecked, annulled, and vacated, posterity will acknowledge that virtue which preserved them free and happy; and while we enjoy the rewards and blessings of the faithful, the torrent of panegyrists will roll our reputations to that latest period, when the streams of time shall be absorbed in the abyss of eternity.—Therefore, we have resolved, and do *resolve*,

1. That whereas his majesty, George the Third, is the rightful successor to the throne of Great-Britain, and justly entitled to the allegiance of the British realm, and agreeable to compact, of the English colonies in America—therefore, we, the heirs and successors of the first planters of this colony, do cheerfully acknowledge the said George the Third to be our rightful sovereign, and that said covenant is the tenure and claim on which are founded our allegiance and submission.

2. That it is an indispensable duty which we owe to God, our country, ourselves and posterity, by all lawful ways and means in our power to maintain, defend and preserve those civil and religious rights and liberties, for which many of our fathers fought, bled and died, and to hand them down entire to future generations.

3. That the late acts of the British parliament for blocking up the harbour of Boston, for altering the established form of government in this colony, and for screening the most flagitious violators of the laws of the province from a legal trial, are gross infractions of those rights to which we are justly entitled by the laws of nature, the British constitution, and the charter of the province.

4. That no obedience is due from this province to either or any part of the acts above-mentioned, but that they be rejected as the attempts of a wicked administration to enslave America.

5. That so long as the justices of our superior court of judicature, court of assize, &c. and inferior court of common pleas in this county are appointed, or hold their places, by any other tenure than that which the charter and the laws of the province direct, they must be considered as under undue influence, and are therefore unconstitutional officers, and, as such, no regard ought to be paid to them by the people of this county.

6. That if the justices of the superior court of judicature, assize, &c. justices of the court of common pleas, or of the general sessions of the peace, shall sit and act during their present disqualified state, this county will support, and bear harmless, all sheriffs and their deputies, constables, jurors and other officers who shall refuse to carry into execution the orders of said courts; and, as far as possible, to prevent the many inconveniencies which must be occasioned by a suspension of the courts of justice, we do most earnestly recommend it to all creditors, that they shew all reasonable and even generous forbearance to their debtors; and to all debtors, to pay their just debts with all possible speed, and if any disputes relative to debts or trespasses shall arise, which cannot be settled by the parties, we recommend it to them to submit all such causes to arbitration; and it is our opinion that the contending parties or either of them, who shall refuse so to do, ought to be considered as co-operating with the enemies of this country.

7. That it be recommended to the collectors of taxes, constables and all other officers, who have public monies in their hands, to retain the same, and not to make any payment thereof to the provincial county treasurer until the civil government of the province is placed upon a constitutional foundation, or until it shall otherwise be ordered by the proposed provincial Congress.

8. That the persons who have accepted seats at the council board, by virtue of a mandamus from the King, in conformity to the late act of the British parliament, entitled, an act for the regulating the government of the Massachusetts-Bay, have acted in direct violation of the duty they owe to their country, and have thereby given great and just offence to this people; therefore, resolved, that this county do recommend it to all persons, who have so highly offended by accepting said departments, and have not already publicly resigned their seats at the council board, to make public resignations of their places at said board, on or before the 20th day of this instant, September; and that all persons refusing so to do, shall, from and after said day, be considered by this county as obstinate and incorrigible enemies to this country.

9. That the fortifications begun and now carrying on upon Boston Neck, are justly alarming to this county, and gives us reason to apprehend some hostile intention against that town, more especially as the commander in chief has, in a very extraordinary manner, removed the powder from the magazine at Charlestown, and has also forbidden the keeper of the magazine at Boston, to deliver out to the owners, the powder, which they had lodged in said magazine.

10. That the late act of parliament for establishing the Roman Catholic religion and the French laws in that extensive country, now called Quebec, is dangerous in an extreme degree to the Protestant religion and to the civil rights and liberties of all America; and, therefore, as men and Protestant Christians, we are indispensably obliged to take all proper measures for our security.

11. That whereas our enemies have flattered themselves that they shall make an easy prey of this numerous, brave and hardy people, from an apprehension that they are unacquainted with military discipline; we, therefore, for the honour, defence and security of this county and province, advise, as it has been recommended to take away all commissions from the officers of the militia, that those who now hold commissions, or such other persons, be elected in each town as officers in the militia, as shall be judged of sufficient capacity for that purpose, and who have evidenced themselves the inflexible friends to

the rights of the people ; and that the inhabitants of those towns and districts, who are qualified, do use their utmost diligence to acquaint themselves with the art of war as soon as possible, and do, for that purpose, appear under arms at least once every week.

12. That during the present hostile appearances on the part of Great-Britain, notwithstanding the many insults and oppressions which we most sensibly resent, yet, nevertheless, from our affection to his majesty, which we have at all times evidenced, we are determined to act merely upon the defensive, so long as such conduct may be vindicated by reason and the principles of self-preservation, but no longer.

13. That, as we understand it has been in contemplation to apprehend sundry persons of this county, who have rendered themselves conspicuous in contending for the violated rights and liberties of their countrymen ; we do recommend, should such an audacious measure be put in practice, to seize and keep in safe custody, every servant of the present tyrannical and unconstitutional government throughout the county and province, until the persons so apprehended be liberated from the hands of our adversaries, and restored safe and uninjured to their respective friends and families.

14. That until our rights are fully restored to us, we will, to the utmost of our power, and we recommend the same to the other counties, to withhold all commercial intercourse with Great-Britain, Ireland, and the West-Indies, and abstain from the consumption of British merchandise and manufactures, and especially of East-India teas and piece goods, with such additions, alterations, and exceptions only, as the General Congress of the colonies may agree to.

15. That under our present circumstances, it is incumbent on us to encourage arts and manufactures amongst us, by all means in our power, and that  
be and are hereby appointed  
a committee, to consider of the best ways and means to promote and establish the same, and to report to this convention as soon as may be.

16. That the exigencies of our public affairs, demand that a provincial Congress be called to consult such measures as may be adopted, and vigorously executed by the whole people ; and we do recommend it to the several towns in this county, to chuse members for such a provincial Congress, to be holden at Concord, on the second Tuesday of October, next ensuing.

17. That this county, confiding in the wisdom and integrity of the continental Congress, now sitting at Philadelphia, pay all due respect and submission to such measures as may be recommended by them to the colonies, for the restoration and establishment of their just rights, civil and religious, and for renewing that harmony and union between Great-Britain and the colonies, so earnestly wished for by all good men.

18. That whereas the universal uneasiness which prevails among all orders of men, arising from the wicked and oppressive measures of the present administration, may influence some unthinking persons to commit outrage upon private property ; we would heartily recommend to all persons of this community, not to engage in any routs, riots, or licentious attacks upon the properties of any person whatsoever, as being subversive of all order and government ; but, by a steady, manly, uniform, and persevering opposition, to convince our enemies, that in a contest so important, in a cause so solemn, our conduct shall be such as to merit the approbation of the wise, and the admiration of the brave and free of every age and of every country.

19. That should our enemies, by any sudden manœuvres, render it necessary to ask the aid and assistance of our brethren in the country, some one of the committee of correspondence, or a select man of such town, or the town adjoining, where such hostilities shall commence, or shall be expected to commence, shall despatch couriers with written messages to the select men, or committees of correspondence, of the several towns in the vicinity, with a

written account of such matter, who shall despatch others to committees more remote, until proper and sufficient assistance be obtained, and that the expense of said couriers be defrayed by the county, until it shall be otherwise ordered by the provincial Congress.

At a meeting of delegates from the several towns and districts in the county of Suffolk, held at Milton, on Friday, the 9th day of September, 1774—*Voted*,

That Dr. Joseph Warren, of Boston, &c. be a committee to wait on his excellency the governor, to inform him, that this county are alarmed at the fortifications making on Boston Neck, and to remonstrate against the same, and the repeated insults offered by the soldiery, to persons passing and repassing into that town, and to confer with him upon those subjects.

Attest,

WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Clerk*.

“ To his excellency THOMAS GAGE, Esq. captain-general, and commander in chief of his majesty's province of Massachusetts-Bay.

“ *May it please your excellency,*

“ The county of Suffolk, being greatly, and, in their opinion, justly alarmed at the formidable appearances of hostility, now threatening his majesty's good subjects of this county, and more particularly of the town of Boston, the loyal and faithful capital of this province, beg leave to address your excellency, and represent, that the apprehensions of the people are more particularly increased by the dangerous design, now carrying into execution, of repairing and manning the fortification at the south entrance of the town of Boston, which, when completed, may, at any time, be improved to aggravate the miseries of that already impoverished and distressed city, by intercepting the wonted and necessary intercourse between the town and country, and compel the wretched inhabitants to the most ignominious state of humiliation and vassalage, by depriving them of the necessary supplies of provision, for which they are chiefly dependant on that communication. We have been informed, that your excellency, in consequence of the application of the select men of Boston, has, indeed, disavowed any intention to injure the town in your present manœuvres, and expressed your purpose to be for the security of the troops and his majesty's subjects in the town, we are therefore at a loss to guess, may it please your excellency, from whence your want of confidence in the loyal and orderly people of this vicinity could originate; a measure, so formidable, carried into execution from a pre-conceived though causeless jealousy of the insecurity of his majesty's troops and subjects in the town, deeply wounds the loyalty, and is an additional injury to the faithful subjects of this county, and affords them a strong motive for this application. We therefore intreat your excellency to desist from your design, assuring your excellency, that the people of this county, are by no means disposed to injure his majesty's troops; they think themselves aggrieved and oppressed by the late acts of parliament, and are resolved, by Divine assistance, never to submit to them, but have no inclination to commence a war with his majesty's troops, and beg leave to observe to your excellency, that the ferment now excited in the minds of the people, is occasioned by some late transactions, by seizing the powder in the arsenal at Charlestown; by withholding the powder lodged in the magazine of the town of Boston, from the legal proprietors; insulting, beating, and abusing passengers to and from the town by the soldiery, in which they have been encouraged by some of their officers; putting the people in fear, and menacing them in their nightly patrol into the neighbouring towns, and more particularly by the fortifying the sole avenue by land to the town of Boston.

“ In duty therefore to his majesty and to your excellency, and for the restoration of order and security to this county, we the delegates from the several towns in this county, being commissioned for this purpose, beg your excellency's attention to this our humble and faithful address, assuring you, that nothing

less than an immediate removal of the ordnance, and restoring the entrance into the town to its former state, and an effectual stop of all insults and abuses in future, can place the inhabitants of this county in that state of peace and tranquillity, in which every free subject ought to be."

His excellency was waited on to know if he would receive the committee with the above written address, but desiring he might have a copy of it in a private way, that so when he received it from the committee, he might have an answer prepared for them, he was accordingly furnished with a copy. His excellency then declared, that he would receive the committee on Monday, at 12 o'clock.

**SATURDAY, September 10, 1774.**

The Congress, taking the foregoing into consideration,

*Resolved unanimously*, That this assembly deeply feels the suffering of their countrymen in the Massachusetts-Bay, under the operation of the late unjust, cruel, and oppressive acts of the British parliament—that they most thoroughly approve the wisdom and fortitude, with which opposition to these wicked ministerial measures has hitherto been conducted, and they earnestly recommend to their brethren, a perseverance in the same firm and temperate conduct as expressed in the resolutions determined upon, at a meeting of the delegates for the county of Suffolk, on Tuesday the 6th instant, trusting that the effect of the united efforts of North America in their behalf, will carry such conviction to the British nation, of the unwise, unjust, and ruinous policy of the present administration, as quickly to introduce better men and wiser measures.

*Resolved unanimously*, That contributions from all the colonies for supplying the necessities, and alleviating the distresses of our brethren at Boston, ought to be continued, in such manner, and so long as their occasions may require.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above resolutions be transmitted to Boston by the President.

*Ordered*, That these resolutions, together with the resolutions of the county of Suffolk, be published in the newspapers.

The committee appointed to examine and report the several statutes, which affect the trade and manufactures of the colonies, brought in their report, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till Monday morning.

**MONDAY, September 19, 1774. A. M.**

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The report brought in on Saturday being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to state the rights of the colonies, &c. to which committee, the honourable Thomas Cushing, esq. Patrick Henry, and Thomas Mifflin, esqrs. were added.

Adjourned from day to day, till Thursday.

**THURSDAY, September 22, 1774.**

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Upon motion,

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Congress request the merchants and others in the several colonies, not to send to Great Britain, any orders for goods, and to direct the execution of all orders already sent, to be delayed or suspended, until the sense of the Congress on the means to be taken for the preservation of the liberties of America is made public.

*Ordered*, That this resolution be made public by hand-bills, and by publishing it in the newspapers.

The committee appointed to state the rights, &c. of the colonies, having brought in a report of rights, the same was read, and the consideration of it referred till Saturday next.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this report be made out for each colony.

**SATURDAY, September 24, 1774. A. M.**

The Congress entered upon the consideration of the report referred to this day, and after some debate, upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Congress do confine themselves, at present, to the consideration of such rights, as have been infringed by acts of the British parliament since the year 1763, postponing the further consideration of the general state of American rights to a future day.

Hereupon, the committee appointed to state the rights, &c. brought in a report of the infringements and violations of American rights, which being read—upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the consideration of this report be referred till Monday, and that the Congress in the mean time deliberate on the means most proper to be used for a restoration of our rights.

After some debate on the subject, the Congress adjourned.

**MONDAY, September 26, 1774. A. M.**

The Congress met according to adjournment.

John Herring, esq. a deputy from Orange county, in the colony of New-York, appeared this morning, and took his seat as a delegate for that colony.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the means, &c. and after several hours spent thereon, it was referred till to-morrow, to which time the Congress was adjourned.

**TUESDAY, September 27, 1774. A. M.**

The Congress met according to adjournment, and resuming the consideration of the means most proper to be used for a restoration of American rights,

*Resolved unanimously*, That from and after the first day of December next, there be no importation into British America from Great-Britain or Ireland, of any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, or from any other place, of any such goods, wares or merchandises, as shall have been exported from Great-Britain or Ireland, and that no such goods, wares or merchandises imported after the said first day of December next, be used or purchased.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

Wednesday and Thursday being taken up in the consideration and debates on the means, &c. the Congress met on Friday, 30th September—and upon the question,

*Resolved*, That from and after the 10th day of September, 1775, the exportation of all merchandise and every commodity whatsoever to Great-Britain, Ireland and the West-Indies, ought to cease, unless the grievances of America are redressed before that time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cushing, Mr. Low, Mr. Mifflin, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Johnson, be a committee to bring in a plan for carrying into effect, the non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation resolved on.

**SATURDAY, October 1, 1774.**

Simon Boerum, esq. appeared in Congress as a deputy from King's county in the colony of New-York, and produced the credentials of his election, which being read and approved, he took his seat as a delegate for that colony.

The Congress, resuming the consideration of the means, &c. upon motion,

*Resolved unanimously*, That a loyal address to his majesty be prepared, dutifully requesting the royal attention to the grievances that alarm and distress his majesty's faithful subjects in North-America, and entreating his majesty's gracious interposition for the removal of such grievances; thereby to restore between Great-Britain and the colonies that harmony so necessary to the happiness of the British empire, and so ardently desired by all America.

*Agreed*, That Mr. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Rutledge, be a committee, to prepare an address to his majesty.

MONDAY, October 3, 1774.

The Congress met, according to adjournment, and after some debate,

*Resolved unanimously*, That it be an instruction to the committee, who are appointed to draw up an address to the king: Whereas parliamentary taxes on America have been laid, on pretence of "defraying the expenses of government, and supporting the administration of justice, and defending, protecting, and securing the colonies." That they do assure his majesty, that the colonies have or will make ample provision for defraying all the necessary expenses of supporting government, and the due administration of justice in the respective colonies; that the militia, if put on a proper footing, would be amply sufficient for their defence in time of peace; that they are desirous of putting it on such a footing immediately, and that in case of war, the colonies are ready to grant supplies for raising any further forces that may be necessary.

The remainder of this day and the day following, was taken up in deliberating and debating on matters proper to be contained in the address to his majesty.

WEDNESDAY, October 5, 1774.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the subject in debate yesterday, and after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to prepare an address to his majesty, be instructed to assure his majesty, that in case the colonies shall be restored to the state they were in, at the close of the late war, by abolishing the system of laws and regulations—for raising a revenue in America—for extending the powers of courts of admiralty—for the trial of persons beyond sea for crimes committed in America—for affecting the colony of the Massachusetts-Bay—and for altering the government, and extending the limits of Canada, the jealousies which have been occasioned by such acts and regulations of parliament, will be removed, and commerce again restored.

An address from William Goddard to the Congress was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

THURSDAY, October 6, 1774.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the means proper to be used for a restoration of American rights. During this debate, an express from Boston arrived with a letter from the committee of correspondence, dated the 29th of September, which was laid before the Congress.

In this the committee of correspondence inform the Congress, that they "expected some regard would have been paid to the petitions presented to their governor, against fortifying their town in such a manner as can be accounted for only upon the supposition, that the town and country are to be treated by the soldiery as declared enemies—that the entrenchments upon the Neck are nearly completed—that cannon are mounted at the entrance of the town—that it is currently reported, that fortifications are to be erected on Corpse-Hill, Bacon-Hill, Fort-Hill, &c. so that the fortifications, with the ships in the harbour, may absolutely command every avenue to the town both by sea and land—that a number of cannon, the property of a private gentleman, were a

few days ago seized and taken from his wharf by order of the general—that from several circumstances mentioned in the letter, there is reason to apprehend, that Boston is to be made and kept a garrisoned town—that from all they can hear from Britain, administration is resolved to do all in their power to force them to a submission—that when the town is inclosed, it is apprehended the inhabitants will be held as hostages for the submission of the country, they apply therefore to the Congress for advice how to act—that, if the Congress advise to quit the town, they obey—if it is judged that by maintaining their ground they can better serve the public cause, they will not shrink from hardship and danger—finally, that as the late acts of parliament have made it impossible that there should be a due administration of justice, and all law therefore must be suspended—that as the governor has by proclamation prevented the meeting of the general court, they therefore request the advice of the Congress.”

*Ordered*, That this letter be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the means, &c.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to prepare the form of an association, be directed to adopt the following clause, viz.—That from and after the first day of December next, no molasses, coffee or pimento from the British plantations or from Dominica, or wines from Maderia and the Western Islands, or foreign indigo, be imported into these colonies.

#### FRIDAY, October 7, 1774.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from the committee of correspondence in Boston, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare a letter to his excellency general Gage, representing “that the town of Boston, and province of Massachusetts-Bay, are considered by all America, as suffering in the common-cause, for their noble and spirited opposition to oppressive acts of parliament, calculated to deprive us of our most sacred rights and privileges.”—Expressing our concern, that, while the Congress are deliberating on the most peaceable means for restoring American liberty, and that harmony and intercourse, which subsisted between us and the parent kingdom, so necessary to both, his excellency, as they are informed, is raising fortifications round the town of Boston, thereby exciting well grounded jealousies in the minds of his majesty’s faithful subjects therein, that he means to cut off all communication between them and their brethren in the country, and reduce them to a state of submission to his will, and that the soldiers under his excellency’s command, are frequently violating private property, and offering various insults to the people, which must irritate their minds, and if not put a stop to, involve all America in the horrors of a civil war.—To entreat his excellency, from the assurance we have of the peaceable disposition of the inhabitants of the town of Boston and the province of the Massachusetts-Bay, to discontinue his fortifications, and that a free and safe communication be restored and continued between the town of Boston and the country, and prevent all injuries on the part of the troops, until his majesty’s pleasure shall be known, after the measures now adopting shall have been laid before him.

Mr. Lynch, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Pendleton, are appointed a committee to draught a letter agreeable to the foregoing resolution.

#### SATURDAY, October 8, 1774.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from Boston, and upon motion,

*Resolved*, That this Congress approve the opposition of the inhabitants of the Massachusetts-Bay, to the execution of the late acts of parliament; and if

the same shall be attempted to be carried into execution by force, in such case, all America ought to support them in their opposition.

**MONDAY, October 10, 1774.**

The Congress, resuming the consideration of the letter from Boston,

*Resolved unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this body, that the removal of the people of Boston into the country, would be, not only extremely difficult in the execution, but so important in its consequences, as to require the utmost deliberation before it is adopted; but, in case the provincial meeting of that colony should judge it absolutely necessary, it is the opinion of the Congress, that all America ought to contribute towards recompensing them for the injury they may thereby sustain; and it will be recommended accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Congress recommend to the inhabitants of the colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, to submit to a suspension of the administration of justice, where it cannot be procured in a legal and peaceable manner, under the rules of their present charter, and the laws of the colony founded thereon.

*Resolved unanimously*, That every person and persons whomsoever, who shall take, accept, or act under any commission or authority, in any wise derived from the act passed in the last session of parliament, changing the form of government, and violating the charter of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, ought to be held in detestation and abhorrence by all good men, and considered as the wicked tools of that despotism, which is preparing to destroy those rights, which God, nature, and compact, have given to America.

The committee brought in a draught of a letter to general Gage, and the same being read and amended, was ordered to be copied, and to be signed by the President in behalf of the Congress.

**TUESDAY, October 11, 1774.**

A copy of the letter to general Gage, was brought into Congress, and agreeable to order, signed by the President, and is as follows:

PHILADELPHIA October 10, 1774.

“SIR,

“The inhabitants of the town of Boston have informed us, the representatives of his majesty’s faithful subjects in all the colonies from Nova-Scotia to Georgia, that the fortifications erecting within that town, the frequent invasions of private property, and the repeated insults they receive from the soldiery, have given them great reason to suspect a plan is formed very destructive to them, and tending to overthrow the liberties of America.

“Your excellency cannot be a stranger to the sentiments of America, with respect to the acts of parliament, under the execution of which, those unhappy people are oppressed, the approbation universally expressed of their conduct, and the determined resolution of the colonies, for the preservation of their common rights, to unite in their opposition to those acts.—In consequence of these sentiments, they have appointed us the guardians of their rights and liberties, and we are under the deepest concern, that whilst we are pursuing dutiful and peaceable measures to procure a cordial and effectual reconciliation between Great-Britain and the colonies, your excellency should proceed in a manner that bears so hostile an appearance, and which even those oppressive acts do not warrant.

“We entreat your excellency to consider what a tendency this conduct must have to irritate and force a free people, hitherto well disposed to peaceable measures, into hostilities, which may prevent the endeavours of this Congress to restore a good understanding with our parent state, and may involve us in the horrors of a civil war.

“In order therefore to quiet the minds and remove the reasonable jealousies of the people, that they may not be driven to a state of desperation, being

fully persuaded of their pacific disposition towards the king's troops, could they be assured of their own safety, we hope, sir, you will discontinue the fortifications in and about Boston, prevent any further invasions of private property, restrain the irregularities of the soldiers, and give orders that the communication between the town and country may be open, unmolested and free.

“Signed by order, and in behalf of the General Congress,  
“PEYTON RANDOLPH, *President.*”

As the Congress have given general Gage an assurance of the peaceable disposition of the people of Boston and the Massachusetts-Bay,

*Resolved unanimously*, That they be advised still to conduct themselves peaceably towards his excellency general Gage, and his majesty's troops now stationed in the town of Boston, as far as can possibly be consistent with their immediate safety, and the security of the town; avoiding and discountenancing every violation of his majesty's property, or any insult to his troops, and that they peaceably and firmly persevere in the line they are now conducting themselves, on the defensive.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing resolve, and of that passed on Saturday and the three passed yesterday, be made out, and that the President inclose them in a letter to the committee of correspondence for the town of Boston, being the sentiments of the Congress on the matters referred to them by the committee, in their letter of the 29th of September last.

*Resolved unanimously*, That a memorial be prepared to the people of British America, stating to them the necessity of a firm, united, and invariable observation of the measures recommended by the Congress, as they tender the invaluable rights and liberties derived to them from the laws and constitution of their country.

Also that an address be prepared to the people of Great-Britain.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee, Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Jay, be a committee to prepare a draught of the memorial and address.

#### WEDNESDAY, October 12, 1774.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare a plan for carrying into effect, the non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement, brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, That the same lie on the table, for the perusal of the members:

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the rights and grievances of these colonies, and after deliberating on the subject this and the following day, adjourned till

#### FRIDAY October 14, 1774.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and resuming the consideration of the subject under debate—made the following *declaration and resolves*:

Whereas, since the close of the last war, the British parliament, claiming a power of right, to bind the people of America by statutes in all cases whatsoever, hath, in some acts, expressly imposed taxes on them, and in others, under various pretences, but in fact for the purpose of raising a revenue, hath imposed rates and duties payable in these colonies, established a board of commissioners, with unconstitutional powers, and extended the jurisdiction of courts of admiralty, not only for collecting the said duties, but for the trial of causes merely arising within the body of a county.

And whereas, in consequence of other statutes, judges, who before held only estates at will in their offices, have been made dependant on the crown alone for their salaries, and standing armies kept in times of peace: And whereas it has lately been resolved in parliament, that by force of a statute, made in the thirty-

fifth year of the reign of king Henry the eighth, colonists may be transported to England, and tried there upon accusations for treasons, and misprisions, or concealments of treasons committed in the colonies, and by a late statute, such trials have been directed in cases therein mentioned.

And whereas, in the last session of parliament, three statutes were made ; "one, entitled " An act to discontinue, in such manner and for such time as " are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading, or shipping of " goods, wares and merchandise, at the town, and within the harbour of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, in North-America ;" another, entitled " An act for the better regulating the government of the province of " Massachusetts-Bay in New-England ;" and another, entitled " An act for the " impartial administration of justice, in the cases of persons questioned for " any act done by them in the execution of the law, or for the suppression of riots " and tumults, in the province of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England ;" and another statute was then made, " for making more effectual provision for the " government of the province of Quebec, &c." All which statutes are impolitic, unjust, and cruel, as well as unconstitutional, and most dangerous and destructive of American rights.

And whereas, assemblies have been frequently dissolved, contrary to the rights of the people, when they attempted to deliberate on grievances ; and their dutiful, humble, loyal, and reasonable petitions to the crown for redress, have been repeatedly treated with contempt, by his majesty's ministers of state :

The good people of the several colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, justly alarmed at these arbitrary proceedings of parliament and administration, have severally elected, constituted, and appointed deputies to meet, and sit in General Congress, in the city of Philadelphia, in order to obtain such establishment, as that their religion, laws, and liberties, may not be subverted. Whereupon the deputies so appointed being now assembled, in a full and free representation of these colonies, taking into their most serious consideration, the best means of attaining the ends aforesaid, do, in the first place, as Englishmen, their ancestors in like cases have usually done, for affecting and vindicating their rights and liberties, DECLARE,

That the inhabitants of the English colonies in North-America, by the immutable laws of nature, the principles of the English constitution, and the several charters or compacts, have the following RIGHTS :

*Resolved, N. C. D. 1.* That they are entitled to life, liberty, and property, and they have never ceded to any sovereign power whatever, a right to dispose of either without their consent.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 2.* That our ancestors, who first settled these colonies, were at the time of their emigration from the mother country, entitled to all the rights, liberties, and immunities of free and natural-born subjects, within the realm of England.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 3.* That by such emigration they by no means forfeited, surrendered, or lost any of those rights, but that they were, and their descendants now are, entitled to the exercise and enjoyment of all such of them, as their local and other circumstances enable them to exercise and enjoy.

*Resolved, 4,* That the foundation of English liberty, and of all free government, is a right in the people to participate in their legislative council : and as the English colonists are not represented, and from their local and other circumstances, cannot properly be represented in the British parliament, they are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved,

in all cases of taxation and internal polity, subject only to the negative of their sovereign, in such manner as has been heretofore used and accustomed. But, from the necessity of the case, and a regard to the mutual interest of both countries, we cheerfully consent to the operation of such acts of the British parliament, as are bona fide, restrained to the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of the whole empire to the mother country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members; excluding every idea of taxation internal or external, for raising a revenue on the subjects in America, without their consent.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 5.* That the respective colonies are entitled to the common law of England, and more especially to the great and inestimable privilege of being tried by their peers of the vicinage, according to the course of that law.

*Resolved, 6.* That they are entitled to the benefit of such of the English statutes, as existed at the time of their colonization; and which they have, by experience, respectively found to be applicable to their several local and other circumstances.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 7.* That these, his majesty's colonies, are likewise entitled to all the immunities and privileges granted and confirmed to them by royal charters, or secured by their several codes of provincial laws.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 8.* That they have a right peaceably to assemble, consider of their grievances, and petition the king; and that all prosecutions, prohibitory proclamations, and commitments for the same, are illegal.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 9.* That the keeping a standing army in these colonies, in times of peace, without the consent of the legislature of that colony, in which such army is kept, is against law.

*Resolved, N. C. D. 10.* It is indispensably necessary to good government, and rendered essential by the English constitution, that the constituent branches of the legislature be independent of each other; that, therefore, the exercise of legislative power in several colonies, by a council appointed, during pleasure, by the crown, is unconstitutional, dangerous and destructive to the freedom of American legislation.

All and each of which the aforesaid deputies, in behalf of themselves, and their constituents, do claim, demand, and insist on, as their indubitable rights and liberties; which cannot be legally taken from them, altered or abridged by any power whatever, without their own consent, by their representatives in their several provincial legislatures.

In the course of our inquiry, we find many infringements and violations of the foregoing rights, which, from an ardent desire, that harmony and mutual intercourse of affection and interest may be restored, we pass over for the present, and proceed to state such acts and measures as have been adopted since the last war, which demonstrate a system formed to enslave America.

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That the following acts of parliament are infringements and violations of the rights of the colonists; and that the repeal of them is essentially necessary, in order to restore harmony between Great-Britain and the American colonies, viz.

The several acts of 4 Geo. III. ch. 15, and ch. 34.—5 Geo. III. ch. 25.—6 Geo. III. ch. 52—7 Geo. III. ch. 41, and ch. 46.—8 Geo. III. ch. 22, which impose duties for the purpose of raising a revenue in America, extend the power of the admiralty courts beyond their ancient limits, deprive the American subject of trial by jury, authorize the judges' certificate to indemnify the prosecutor from damages, that he might otherwise be liable to, requiring oppressive security from a claimant of ships and goods seized, before he shall be allowed to defend his property, and are subversive of American rights.

Also 12 Geo. III. ch. 24, entitled "An act for the better securing his majesty's dock-yards, magazines, ships, ammunition, and stores," which

declares a new offence in America, and deprives the American subject of a constitutional trial by jury of the vicinage, by authorizing the trial of any person, charged with the committing any offence described in the said act, out of the realm, to be indicted and tried for the same in any shire or county within the realm.

Also the three acts passed in the last session of parliament, for stopping the port and blocking up the harbour of Boston, for altering the charter and government of Massachusetts-Bay, and that which is entitled "An act for the better administration of justice," &c.

Also the act passed in the same session for establishing the Roman Catholic religion, in the province of Quebec, abolishing the equitable system of English laws, and erecting a tyranny there, to the great danger, (from so total a dissimilarity of religion, law and government) of the neighbouring British colonies, by the assistance of whose blood and treasure the said country was conquered from France.

Also the act passed in the same session, for the better providing suitable quarters for officers and soldiers in his majesty's service, in North-America.

Also, that the keeping a standing army in several of these colonies, in time of peace, without the consent of the legislature of that colony, in which such army is kept, is against law.

To these grievous acts and measures, Americans cannot submit, but in hopes their fellow subjects in Great-Britain will, on a revision of them, restore us to that state, in which both countries found happiness and prosperity, we have for the present, only resolved to pursue the following peaceable measures: 1. To enter into a non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement or association. 2. To prepare an address to the people of Great-Britain, and a memorial to the inhabitants of British America: and 3. To prepare a loyal address to his majesty, agreeable to resolutions already entered into.

A letter being received from several gentlemen in Georgia, was read.

#### SATURDAY, *October 15, 1774.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the plan for carrying into effect the non-importation, &c. and after some time spent on that subject, adjourned till Monday.

#### MONDAY, *October 17, 1774.*

Mr. John Dickinson appeared in Congress as a deputy for the province of Pennsylvania, and produced his credentials as follows:

"IN ASSEMBLY, *October 15, 1774. A. M.*

"Upon motion by Mr. Ross,

"*Ordered*, That Mr. Dickinson be, and he is hereby added to the committee of deputies, appointed by the late assembly of this province, to attend the General Congress now sitting in the city of Philadelphia on American grievances.

"By order of the House,

"CHA. MOORE, *clerk of the Assembly.*"

The same being approved, Mr. Dickinson took his seat as one of the deputies for the province of Pennsylvania.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the plan of association, &c. and after spending the remainder of the day on that subject, adjourned till to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, *October 18, 1774.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the plan of association, &c. and after sundry amendments, the same was agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed, that it may be signed by the several members.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the people of Great-Britain, brought in a draught, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table, for the perusal of the members, and to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, October 19, 1774.**

The Congress resumed the consideration of the address to the people of Great-Britain, and the same being debated by paragraphs, and sundry amendments made, the same was re-committed, in order that the amendments may be taken in.

The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to the inhabitants of these colonies, reported a draught, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That this memorial be taken into consideration to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, October 20, 1774.**

The association being copied, was read and signed at the table, and is as follows:—

WE, his majesty's most loyal subjects, the delegates of the several colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties of New-Castle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, deputed to represent them in a continental Congress, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the 5th day of September, 1774, avowing our allegiance to his majesty, our affection and regard for our fellow-subjects in Great-Britain and elsewhere, affected with the deepest anxiety, and most alarming apprehensions, at those grievances and distresses, with which his majesty's American subjects are oppressed; and having taken under our most serious deliberation, the state of the whole continent, find, that the present unhappy situation of our affairs is occasioned by a ruinous system of colony administration, adopted by the British ministry about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving these colonies, and, with them, the British empire. In prosecution of which system, various acts of parliament have been passed, for raising a revenue in America, for depriving the American subjects, in many instances, of the constitutional trial by jury, exposing their lives to danger, by directing a new and illegal trial beyond the seas, for crimes alleged to have been committed in America: and in prosecution of the same system, several late, cruel, and oppressive acts have been passed, respecting the town of Boston and the Massachusetts-Bay, and also an act for extending the province of Quebec, so as to border on the western frontiers of these colonies, establishing an arbitrary government therein, and discouraging the settlement of British subjects in that wide extended country; thus, by the influence of civil principles and ancient prejudices, to dispose the inhabitants to act with hostility against the free Protestant colonies, whenever a wicked ministry shall chuse to direct them.

To obtain redress of these grievances, which threaten destruction to the lives, liberty, and property of his majesty's subjects, in North America, we are of opinion, that a non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement, faithfully adhered to, will prove the most speedy, effectual, and peaceable measure: and, therefore, we do, for ourselves, and the inhabitants of the several colonies, whom we represent, firmly agree and associate, under the sacred ties of virtue, honour and love of our country, as follows:

1. That from and after the first day of December next, we will not import, into British America, from Great-Britain or Ireland, any goods, wares, or merchandise whatsoever, or from any other place, any such goods, wares, or merchandise, as shall have been exported from Great-Britain or Ireland; nor will we, after that day, import any East-India tea from any part of the world; nor any molasses, syrups, paneles, coffee, or pimento, from the British plantations or from Dominica; nor wines from Madeira, or the Western Islands; nor foreign indigo.

2. We will neither import nor purchase, any slave imported after the first day of December next; after which time, we will wholly discontinue the slave trade, and will neither be concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our vessels, nor sell our commodities or manufactures to those who are concerned in it.

3. As a non-consumption agreement, strictly adhered to, will be an effectual security for the observation of the non-importation, we, as above, solemnly agree and associate, that from this day, we will not purchase or use any tea, imported on account of the East-India company, or any on which a duty hath been or shall be paid; and from and after the first day of March next, we will not purchase or use any East-India tea whatever; nor will we, nor shall any person for or under us, purchase or use any of those goods, wares, or merchandise, we have agreed not to import, which we shall know, or have cause to suspect, were imported after the first day of December, except such as come under the rules and directions of the tenth article hereafter mentioned.

4. The earnest desire we have not to injure our fellow-subjects in Great-Britain, Ireland, or the West-Indies, induces us to suspend a non-exportation, until the tenth day of September, 1775; at which time, if the said acts and parts of acts of the British parliament herein after mentioned, are not repealed, we will not directly or indirectly, export any merchandise or commodity whatsoever to Great-Britain, Ireland, or the West-Indies, except rice to Europe.

5. Such as are merchants, and use the British and Irish trade, will give orders, as soon as possible, to their factors, agents and correspondents, in Great-Britain and Ireland, not to ship any goods to them, on any pretence whatsoever, as they cannot be received in America; and if any merchant, residing in Great-Britain or Ireland, shall directly or indirectly ship any goods, wares or merchandise, for America, in order to break the said non-importation agreement, or in any manner contravene the same, on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made public; and, on the same being so done, we will not, from thenceforth, have any commercial connexion with such merchant.

6. That such as are owners of vessels will give positive orders to their captains, or masters, not to receive on board their vessels any goods prohibited by the said non-importation agreement, on pain of immediate dismissal from their service.

7. We will use our utmost endeavours to improve the breed of sheep, and increase their number to the greatest extent; and to that end, we will kill them as seldom as may be, especially those of the most profitable kind; nor will we export any to the West-Indies or elsewhere; and those of us, who are or may become overstocked with, or can conveniently spare any sheep, will dispose of them to our neighbours, especially to the poorer sort, on moderate terms.

8. We will, in our several stations, encourage frugality, economy, and industry, and promote agriculture, arts and the manufactures of this country, especially that of wool; and will discountenance and discourage every species of extravagance and dissipation, especially all horse-racing, and all kinds of gaming, cock-fighting, exhibitions of shews, plays, and other expensive diversions and entertainments; and on the death of any relation or friend, none of us, or any of our families, will go into any further mourning-dress, than a black crape or ribbon on the arm or hat, for gentlemen, and a black ribbon and necklace for ladies, and we will discontinue the giving of gloves and scarves at funerals.

9. Such as are venders of goods or merchandise will not take advantage of the scarcity of goods, that may be occasioned by this association, but will sell the same at the rates we have been respectively accustomed to do, for twelve months last past.—And if any vender of goods or merchandise shall sell any such goods on higher terms, or shall, in any manner, or by any device whatsoever violate or depart from this agreement, no person ought, nor will any of us

deal with any such person, or his or her factor or agent, at any time thereafter, for any commodity whatever.

10. In case any merchant, trader, or other person, shall import any goods or merchandise, after the first day of December, and before the first day of February next, the same ought forthwith, at the election of the owner, to be either re-shipped or delivered up to the committee of the county or town, wherein they shall be imported, to be stored at the risque of the importer, until the non-importation agreement shall cease, or be sold under the direction of the committee aforesaid; and in the last-mentioned case, the owner or owners of such goods shall be reimbursed out of the sales, the first cost and charges, the profit, if any, to be applied towards relieving and employing such poor inhabitants of the town of Boston, as are immediate sufferers by the Boston port-bill; and a particular account of all goods so returned, stored, or sold, to be inserted in the public papers; and if any goods or merchandises shall be imported after the said first day of February, the same ought forthwith to be sent back again, without breaking any of the packages thereof.

11. That a committee be chosen in every county, city, and town, by those who are qualified to vote for representatives in the legislature, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this association; and when it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of a majority of any such committee, that any person within the limits of their appointment has violated this association, that such majority do forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published in the gazette; to the end, that all such foes to the rights of British-America may be publicly known, and universally condemned as the enemies of American liberty; and thenceforth we respectively will break off all dealings with him or her.

12. That the committee of correspondence, in the respective colonies, do frequently inspect the entries of their custom-houses, and inform each other, from time to time, of the true state thereof, and of every other material circumstance that may occur relative to this association.

13. That all manufactures of this country be sold at reasonable prices, so that no undue advantage be taken of a future scarcity of goods.

14. And we do further agree and resolve, that we will have no trade, commerce, dealings or intercourse whatsoever, with any colony or province, in North-America, which shall not accede to, or which shall hereafter violate this association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freemen, and as inimical to the liberties of their country.

And we do solemnly bind ourselves and our constituents, under the ties aforesaid, to adhere to this association, until such parts of the several acts of parliament passed since the close of the last war, as impose or continue duties on tea, wine, molasses, syrups, paneles, coffee, sugar, pimento, indigo, foreign paper, glass, and painters' colours, imported into America, and extend the powers of the admiralty courts beyond their ancient limits, deprive the American subject of trial by jury, authorize the judge's certificate to indemnify the prosecutor from damages, that he might otherwise be liable to, from a trial by his peers, require oppressive security from a claimant of ships or goods seized, before he shall be allowed to defend his property, are repealed.—And until that part of the act of the 12th G. 3. ch. 24, entitled “An act for the better securing his majesty's dock-yards, magazines, ships, ammunition, and stores,” by which any persons charged with committing any of the offences therein described, in America, may be tried in any shire or county within the realm, is repealed—and until the four acts, passed the last session of parliament, viz. that for stopping the port and blocking up the harbour of Boston—that for altering the charter and government of the Massachusetts-Bay—and that which is entitled “An act for the better administration of justice, &c.”—and that “for extending the limits of Quebec, &c.” are repealed. And we recommend it to

the provincial conventions, and to the committees in the respective colonies, to establish such farther regulations as they may think proper, for carrying into execution this association.

The foregoing association being determined upon by the Congress, was ordered to be subscribed by the several members thereof; and thereupon, we have hereunto set our respective names accordingly.

IN CONGRESS, PHILADELPHIA, *October 24,*

Signed,

PEYTON RANDOLPH, *President.*

<i>New-Hampshire,</i>	{ John Sullivan, Nathaniel Folsom.				{ Charles Humphreys, Thomas Mifflin,
			<i>Pennsylvania,</i>		{ Edward Biddle, John Morton,
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i>	{ Thomas Cushing, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine.				{ George Ross. Cesar Rodney,
<i>Rhode-Island,</i>	{ Stephen Hopkins, Samuel Ward.		<i>New-Castle, &amp;c.</i>		{ Thomas M'Kean, George Read.
<i>Connecticut,</i>	{ Eliphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman, Silas Deane.			<i>Maryland,</i>	{ Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Johnson,
					{ William Paca, Samuel Chase.
<i>New-York</i>	{ Isaac Low, John Alsop, John Jay, James Duane, William Floyd, Henry Wisner, S. Boerum, Philip Livingston.		<i>Virginia,</i>		{ Richard Henry Lee, George Washington, P. Henry, jun. Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison, Edmund Pendleton.
				<i>North Carolina,</i>	{ William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, R. Caswell.
<i>New-Jersey,</i>	{ James Kinsey, William Livingston, Stephen Crane, Richard Smith, John De Hart.				{ Henry Middleton, Thomas Lynch,
<i>Pennsylvania,</i>	{ Joseph Galloway, John Dickinson,		<i>South-Carolina,</i>		{ Christopher Gadsden, John Rutledge, Edward Rutledge.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the address to the inhabitants of these colonies, and after debate thereon, adjourned till to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *October 21, 1774.*

The address to the people of Great-Britain being brought in, and the amendments directed being made, the same was approved, and is as follows :

To the people of Great-Britain, from the delegates appointed by the several English colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, to consider of their grievances in general Congress, at Philadelphia, September 5th, 1774.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW SUBJECTS,

WHEN a nation, led to greatness by the hand of liberty, and possessed of all the glory that heroism, munificence, and humanity can bestow, descends to the ungrateful task of forging chains for her friends and children, and instead of giving support to freedom, turns advocate for slavery and oppression, there is reason to suspect she has either ceased to be virtuous, or been extremely negligent in the appointment of her rulers.

In almost every age, in repeated conflicts, in long and bloody wars, as well civil as foreign, against many and powerful nations, against the open assaults of enemies, and the more dangerous treachery of friends, have the inhabitants of your island, your great and glorious ancestors, maintained their independence, and transmitted the rights of men, and the blessings of liberty, to you, their posterity.

Be not surprized therefore, that we, who are descended from the same common ancestors; that we, whose forefathers participated in all the rights, the

liberties, and the constitution, you so justly boast of, and who have carefully conveyed the same fair inheritance to us, guaranteed by the plighted faith of government and the most solemn compacts with British sovereigns, should refuse to surrender them to men, who found their claims on no principles of reason, and who prosecute them with a design, that by having our lives and property in their power, they may, with the greatest facility, enslave you.

The cause of America is now the object of universal attention: it has at length become very serious. This unhappy country has not only been oppressed, but abused and misrepresented; and the duty we owe to ourselves and posterity, to your interest, and the general welfare of the British empire, leads us to address you on this very important subject.

*Know then,* That we consider ourselves, and do insist, that we are and ought to be, as free as our fellow-subjects in Britain, and that no power on earth has a right to take our property from us, without our consent.

That we claim all the benefits secured to the subject by the English constitution, and particularly that inestimable one of trial by jury.

That we hold it essential to English liberty, that no man be condemned unheard, or punished for supposed offences, without having an opportunity of making his defence.

That we think the legislature of Great-Britain is not authorized, by the constitution, to establish a religion, fraught with sanguinary and impious tenets, or, to erect an arbitrary form of government, in any quarter of the globe. These rights we, as well as you, deem sacred; and yet, sacred as they are, they have, with many others, been repeatedly and flagrantly violated.

Are not the proprietors of the soil of Great-Britain, lords of their own property? can it be taken from them, without their consent? will they yield it to the arbitrary disposal of any man, or number of men whatever?—You know they will not.

Why then are the proprietors of the soil of America less lords of their property than you are of yours? or why should they submit it to the disposal of your parliament, or any other parliament, or council in the world, not of their election? can the intervention of the sea, that divides us, cause disparity in rights, or can any reason be given, why English subjects, who live three thousand miles from the royal palace, should enjoy less liberty than those who are three hundred miles distant from it?

Reason looks with indignation on such distinctions, and freemen can never perceive their propriety. And yet, however chimerical and unjust such discriminations are, the parliament assert, that they have a right to bind us, in all cases, without exception, whether we consent or not; that they may take and use our property when and in what manner they please; that we are pensioners on their bounty, for all that we possess, and can hold it no longer than they vouchsafe to permit. Such declarations we consider as heresies in English politics, and which can no more operate to deprive us of our property, than the interdicts of the pope can divest kings of sceptres, which the laws of the land and the voice of the people have placed in their hands.

At the conclusion of the late war—a war rendered glorious by the abilities and integrity of a minister, to whose efforts, the British empire owes its safety and its fame: At the conclusion of this war, which was succeeded by an inglorious peace, formed under the auspices of a minister, of principles, and of a family unfriendly to the Protestant cause, and inimical to liberty:—We say, at this period, and under the influence of that man, a plan, for enslaving your fellow-subjects in America, was concerted, and has ever since been pertinaciously carrying into execution.

Prior to this æra you were content with drawing from us the wealth produced by our commerce. You restrained your trade in every way that could conduce to your emolument. You exercised unbounded sovereignty over the

sea. You named the ports and nations, to which alone our merchandise should be carried, and with whom alone we should trade; and though some of these restrictions were grievous, we nevertheless did not complain; we looked up to you as to our parent state, to which we were bound by the strongest ties, and were happy in being instrumental to your prosperity and your grandeur.

We call upon you yourselves, to witness our loyalty and attachment to the common interest of the whole empire: did we not, in the last war, add all the strength of this vast continent to the force which repelled our common enemy; did we not leave our native shores, and meet disease and death, to promote the success of British arms in foreign climates; did you not thank us for our zeal, and even reimburse us large sums of money, which, you confessed, we had advanced beyond our proportion, and far beyond our abilities? You did.

To what causes, then, are we to attribute the sudden change of treatment, and that system of slavery which was prepared for us at the restoration of peace?

Before we had recovered from the distresses which ever attend war, an attempt was made to drain this country of all its money, by the oppressive stamp-act. Paint, glass, and other commodities, which you would not permit us to purchase of other nations, were taxed; nay, although no wine is made in any country, subject to the British state, you prohibited our procuring it of foreigners, without paying a tax, imposed by your parliament, on all we imported. These and many other impositions were laid upon us most unjustly and unconstitutionally, for the express purpose of raising a revenue.—In order to silence complaint, it was, indeed, provided, that this revenue should be expended in America for its protection and defence.—These exactions, however, can receive no justification from a pretended necessity of protecting and defending us; they are lavishly squandered on court favourites and ministerial dependents, generally avowed enemies to America, and employing themselves, by partial representations, to traduce and embroil the colonies. For the necessary support of government here, we ever were and ever shall be ready to provide. And whenever the exigencies of the state may require it, we shall, as we have heretofore done, cheerfully contribute our full proportion of men and money. To enforce this unconstitutional and unjust scheme of taxation, every fence that the wisdom of our British ancestors had carefully erected against arbitrary power, has been violently thrown down in America, and the inestimable right of trial by jury taken away in cases that touch both life and property.—It was ordained, that whenever offences should be committed in the colonies against particular acts, imposing various duties and restrictions upon trade, the prosecutor might bring his action for the penalties in the courts of admiralty; by which means the subject lost the advantage of being tried by an honest uninfluenced jury of the vicinage, and was subjected to the sad necessity of being judged by a single man, a creature of the crown, and according to the course of a law, which exempts the prosecutor from the trouble of proving his accusation, and obliges the defendant either to evince his innocence, or to suffer. To give this new judicatory the greater importance, and as if with design to protect false accusers, it is further provided, that the judge's certificate of there having been probable causes of seizure and prosecution, shall protect the prosecutor from actions at common law for recovery of damages.

By the course of our law, offences committed in such of the British dominions, in which courts are established, and justice duly and regularly administered, shall be there tried by a jury of the vicinage. There the offenders and the witnesses are known, and the degree of credibility, to be given to their testimony, can be ascertained.

In all these colonies, justice is regularly and impartially administered, and yet, by the construction of some, and the direction of other acts of parliament,

offenders are to be taken by force, together with all such persons as may be pointed out as witnesses, and carried to England, there to be tried in a distant land, by a jury of strangers, and subject to all the disadvantages that result from want of friends, want of witnesses, and want of money.

When the design of raising a revenue, from the duties imposed on the importation of tea into America, had in great measure been rendered abortive, by our ceasing to import that commodity, a scheme was concerted by the ministry with the East-India company, and an act passed, enabling and encouraging them to transport and vend it in the colonies. Aware of the danger of giving success to this insidious manœuvre, and of permitting a precedent of taxation, thus to be established among us, various methods were adopted to elude the stroke. The people of Boston, then ruled by a governor, whom, as well as his predecessor, sir Francis Bernard, all America considers as her enemy, were exceedingly embarrassed. The ships, which had arrived with the tea, were, by his management, prevented from returning.—The duties would have been paid; the cargoes landed and exposed to sale; a governor's influence would have procured and protected many purchasers. While the town was suspended by deliberations on this important subject, the tea was destroyed. Even supposing a trespass was thereby committed, and the proprietors of the tea entitled to damages, the courts of law were open, and judges, appointed by the crown, presided in them.—The East-India company, however, did not think proper to commence any suits, nor did they even demand satisfaction, either from individuals, or from the community in general. The ministry, it seems, officiously made the case their own, and the great council of the nation descended to intermeddle with a dispute about private property. Divers papers, letters and other unauthenticated *ex parte* evidence were laid before them; neither the persons who destroyed the tea, nor the people of Boston, were called upon to answer the complaint. The ministry, incensed by being disappointed in a favourite scheme, were determined to recur from the little arts of finesse, to open force and unmanly violence. The port of Boston was blocked up by a fleet, and an army placed in the town. Their trade was to be suspended, and thousands reduced to the necessity of gaining subsistence from charity, till they should submit to pass under the yoke and consent to become slaves, by confessing the omnipotence of parliament, and acquiescing in whatever disposition they might think proper to make of their lives and property.

Let justice and humanity cease to be the boast of your nation! consult your history, examine your records of former transactions; nay, turn to the annals of the many arbitrary states and kingdoms that surround you, and shew us a single instance of men being condemned to suffer for imputed crimes, unheard, unquestioned, and without even the specious formality of a trial; and that, too, by laws made expressly for the purpose, and which had no existence at the time of the fact committed. If it be difficult to reconcile these proceedings to the genius and temper of your laws and constitution, the task will become more arduous, when we call upon our ministerial enemies to justify, not only condemning men untried, and by hearsay, but involving the innocent in one common punishment with the guilty, and for the act of thirty or forty, to bring poverty, distress, and calamity, on thirty thousand souls, and those not your enemies, but your friends, brethren, and fellow subjects.

It would be some consolation to us if the catalogue of American oppressions ended here. It gives us pain to be reduced to the necessity of reminding you, that under the confidence reposed in the faith of government, pledged in a royal charter from a British sovereign, the fore-fathers of the present inhabitants of the Massachusetts-Bay, left their former habitations and established that great, flourishing and loyal colony. Without incurring or being charged with a forfeiture of their rights, without being heard, without being tried, without law, and without justice, by an act of parliament, their charter is destroyed,

their liberties violated, their constitution and form of government changed: and all this upon no better pretence, than because, in one of their towns, a trespass was committed on some merchandise, said to belong to one of the companies, and because the ministry were of opinion, that such high political regulations were necessary, to compel due subordination and obedience to their mandates.

Nor are these the only capital grievances under which we labour. We might tell of dissolute, weak, and wicked governors having been set over us; of legislatures being suspended for asserting the rights of British subjects; of needy and ignorant dependents on great men advanced to the seats of justice, and to other places of trust and importance; of hard restrictions on commerce, and a great variety of lesser evils, the recollection of which is almost lost under the weight and pressure of greater and more poignant calamities.

Now mark the progression of the ministerial plan for enslaving us.

Well aware that such hardy attempts to take our property from us, to deprive us of that valuable right of trial by jury, to seize our persons and carry us for trial to Great-Britain, to blockade our ports, to destroy our charters, and change our forms of government, would occasion, and had already occasioned, great discontent in the colonies, which might produce opposition to these measures; an act was passed to protect, indemnify, and screen from punishment, such as might be guilty even of murder, in endeavouring to carry their oppressive edicts into execution; and by another act the dominion of Canada is to be so extended, modelled and governed, as that by being disunited from us, detached from our interests, by civil as well as religious prejudices, that by their numbers daily swelling with Catholic emigrants from Europe, and by their devotion to administration, so friendly to their religion, they might become formidable to us, and on occasion, be fit instruments, in the hands of power, to reduce the ancient, free Protestant colonies to the same state of slavery with themselves.

This was evidently the object of the act: and in this view, being extremely dangerous to our liberty and quiet, we cannot forbear complaining of it, as hostile to British America. Superadded to these considerations, we cannot help deploring the unhappy condition to which it has reduced the many English settlers, who, encouraged by the royal proclamation, promising the enjoyment of all their rights, have purchased estates in that country.—They are now the subjects of an arbitrary government, deprived of trial by jury, and when imprisoned, cannot claim the benefit of the *habeas corpus* act, that great bulwark and palladium of English liberty.—Nor can we suppress our astonishment, that a British parliament, should ever consent to establish in that country, a religion that has deluged your island in blood, and dispersed impiety, bigotry, persecution, murder, and rebellion through every part of the world.

This being a true state of facts, let us beseech you to consider to what end they lead.

Admit that the ministry, by the powers of Britain, and the aid of our Roman Catholic neighbours, should be able to carry the point of taxation, and reduce us to a state of perfect humiliation and slavery: Such an enterprize would doubtless make some addition to your national debt, which already presses down your liberties, and fills you with pensioners and placemen. We presume, also, that your commerce will somewhat be diminished. However, suppose you should prove victorious, in what condition will you then be? What advantages or what laurels will you reap from such a conquest?

May not a ministry with the same armies enslave you?—It may be said, you will cease to pay them,—but remember the taxes from America, the wealth, and we may add the men, and particularly the Roman Catholics of this vast continent, will then be in the power of your enemies; nor will you have any reason to expect, that after making slaves of us, many among us should refuse to assist in reducing you to the same abject state.

Do not treat this as chimerical. Know that in less than half a century, the quit-rents reserved to the crown, from the numberless grants of this vast continent, will pour large streams of wealth into the royal coffers, and if to this be added, the power of taxing America at pleasure, the crown will be rendered independent of you for supplies, and will possess more treasure than may be necessary to purchase the remains of liberty in your island.—In a word, take care that you do not fall into the pit that is preparing for us.

We believe there is yet much virtue, much justice and much public spirit, in the English nation.—To that justice we now appeal. You have been told that we are seditious, impatient of government, and desirous of independency. Be assured that these are not facts, but calumnies.—Permit us to be as free as yourselves, and we shall ever esteem a union with you, to be our greatest glory and our greatest happiness; we shall ever be ready to contribute all in our power to the welfare of the empire; we shall consider your enemies as our enemies, and your interest as our own.

But, if you are determined that your ministers shall wantonly sport with the rights of mankind—if neither the voice of justice, the dictates of the law, the principles of the constitution, or the suggestions of humanity, can restrain your hands from shedding human blood, in such an impious cause, we must then tell you, that we will never submit to be hewers of wood, or drawers of water for any ministry or nation in the world.

Place us in the same situation that we were at the close of the last war, and our former harmony will be restored.

But, lest the same supineness, and the same inattention to our common interest, which you have for several years shewn, should continue, we think it prudent to anticipate the consequences.

By the destruction of the trade of Boston, the ministry have endeavoured to induce submission to their measures. The like fate may befall us all. We will endeavour, therefore, to live without trade, and recur, for subsistence, to the fertility and bounty of our native soil, which will afford us all the necessaries, and some of the conveniencies, of life. We have suspended our importation from Great-Britain and Ireland; and, in less than a year's time, unless our grievances should be redressed, shall discontinue our exports to those kingdoms and the West-Indies.

It is with the utmost regret, however, that we find ourselves compelled, by the over ruling principles of self-preservation, to adopt measures detrimental, in their consequences, to numbers of our fellow-subjects in Great-Britain and Ireland. But, we hope, that the magnanimity and justice of the British nation will furnish a parliament of such wisdom, independence, and public spirit, as may save the violated rights of the whole empire, from the devices of wicked ministers and evil counsellors, whether in or out of office; and thereby restore that harmony, friendship, and fraternal affection, between all the inhabitants of his majesty's kingdoms and territories so ardently wished for, by every true and honest American.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the memorial to the inhabitants of the British colonies, and the same being debated by paragraphs and amended, was approved, and is as follows:

To the Inhabitants of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina and South-Carolina:

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

We, the delegates appointed, by the good people of these colonies, to meet at Philadelphia, in September last, for the purposes mentioned by our respective constituents, have, in pursuance of the trust reposed in us, assembled, and taken into our most serious consideration, the important matters recommend-

ed to the Congress. Our resolutions thereupon will be herewith communicated to you. But, as the situation of public affairs grows, daily, more and more alarming; and, as it may be more satisfactory, to you, to be informed, by us, in a collective body, than in any other manner, of those sentiments that have been approved, upon a full and free discussion, by the representatives of so great a part of America, we esteem ourselves obliged to add this address to these resolutions.

In every case of opposition by a people to their rulers, or of one state to another, duty to Almighty God, the creator of all, requires that a true and impartial judgment be formed of the measures leading to such opposition; and of the causes by which it has been provoked, or can in any degree be justified, that neither affection on the one hand, nor resentment on the other, being permitted to give a wrong bias to reason, it may be enabled to take a dispassionate view of all circumstances, and to settle the public conduct on the solid foundations of wisdom and justice.

From councils, thus tempered, arise the surest hopes of the divine favour, the firmest encouragement to the parties engaged, and the strongest recommendation of their cause, to the rest of mankind.

With minds deeply impressed by a sense of these truths, we have diligently, deliberately, and calmly enquired into, and considered those exertions, both of the legislative and executive power of Great-Britain, which have excited so much uneasiness in America, and have with equal fidelity and attention, considered the conduct of the colonies. Upon the whole, we find ourselves reduced to the disagreeable alternative of being silent, and betraying the innocent, or, of speaking out, and censuring those we wish to revere. In making our choice of these distressing difficulties, we prefer the course dictated by honesty, and a regard for the welfare of our country.

Soon after the conclusion of the late war, there commenced a memorable change in the treatment of these colonies. By a statute, made in the fourth year of the present reign, a time of profound peace, alleging, "the expediency of new provisions and regulations for extending the commerce between Great-Britain and his majesty's dominions in America, and the necessity of raising a revenue, in the said dominions, for defraying the expenses of defending, protecting and securing the same," the commons of Great-Britain undertook to give and grant to his majesty many rates and duties, to be paid in these colonies. To enforce the observance of this act, it prescribes a great number of severe penalties and forfeitures; and, in two sections, makes a remarkable distinction between the subjects in Great-Britain, and those in America. By the one, the penalties and forfeitures incurred there, are to be recovered in any of the king's courts of record, at Westminster, or in the court of exchequer, in Scotland; and by the other, the penalties and forfeitures incurred here, are to be recovered in any court of record, or in any court of admiralty, or vice-admiralty at the election of the informer or prosecutor.

The inhabitants of these colonies, confiding in the justice of Great-Britain, were scarcely allowed sufficient time to receive and consider this act, before another, well known by the name of the Stamp-Act, and passed in the fifth year of this reign, engrossed their whole attention. By this statute, the British parliament exercised, in the most explicit manner, a power of taxing us, and extending the jurisdiction of courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty, in the colonies, to matters arising within the body of a county, and directed the numerous penalties and forfeitures, thereby inflicted, to be recovered in the said courts.

In the same year, a tax was imposed upon us, by an act establishing several new fees in the customs. In the next year, the stamp-act was repealed; not because it was founded in an erroneous principle, but as the repealing act recites, because "the continuance thereof would be attended with many inconve-

“niencies, and might be productive of consequences greatly detrimental to the commercial interest of Great-Britain.”

In the same year, and by a subsequent act, it was declared, “that his majesty, in parliament, of right, had power to bind the people of these colonies, by statutes, in all cases whatsoever.”

In the same year, another act was passed, for imposing rates and duties payable in these colonies. In this statute, the commons, avoiding the terms of giving and granting, “humbly besought his majesty, that it might be enacted, &c.” But, from a declaration in the preamble, that the rates and duties were “in lieu of” several others granted by the statute first before mentioned, for raising a revenue, and from some other expressions, it appears, that these duties were intended for that purpose.

In the next year, [1767] an act was made “to enable his majesty to put the customs, and other duties in America, under the management of commissioners, &c.” and the king, thereupon, erected the present expensive board of commissioners, for the express purpose of carrying into execution the several acts relating to the revenue and trade in America.

After the repeal of the stamp-act, having again resigned ourselves to our ancient unsuspecting affections for the parent state, and anxious to avoid any controversy with her, in hopes of a favorable alteration, in sentiments and measures, towards us, we did not press our objections against the above mentioned statutes, made subsequent to that repeal.

Administration, attributing to trifling causes, a conduct that really proceeded from generous motives, were encouraged in the same year [1767] to make a bolder experiment on the patience of America.

By a statute, commonly called the glass, paper, and tea act, made fifteen months after the repeal of the stamp-act, the commons of Great-Britain resumed their former language, and again undertook to “give and grant rates and duties, to be paid in these colonies,” for the express purpose of “raising a revenue, to defray the charges of the administration of justice, the support of civil government, and defending the king’s dominions,” on this continent. The penalties and forfeitures, incurred under this statute, are to be recovered in the same manner, with those mentioned in the foregoing acts.

To this statute, so naturally tending to disturb the tranquillity, then universal throughout the colonies, parliament, in the same session, added another no less extraordinary.

Ever since the making the present peace, a standing army has been kept in these colonies. From respect for the mother-country, the innovation was not only tolerated, but the provincial legislatures, generally, made provision for supplying the troops.

The assembly of the province of New-York, having passed an act of this kind, but differing in some articles, from the directions of the act of parliament made in the fifth year of this reign, the house of representatives, in that colony, was prohibited by a statute, made in the last session mentioned, from making any bill, order, resolution, or vote, except for adjourning or choosing a speaker, until provision should be made, by the said assembly, for furnishing the troops, within that province, not only with all such necessaries as were required by the statute, which they were charged with disobeying, but also with those required by two other subsequent statutes, which were declared to be in force, until the twenty-fourth day of March, 1769.

These statutes of the year 1767, revived the apprehensions and discontents, that had entirely subsided on the repeal of the stamp-act; and, amidst the just fears and jealousies, thereby occasioned, a statute was made, in the next year, [1768] to establish courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty on a new model, expressly for the end of more effectually recovering of the penalties and for-

feitures inflicted by acts of parliament, framed for the purpose of raising a revenue in America, &c.

The immediate tendency of these statutes is, to subvert the right of having a share in legislation, by rendering assemblies useless; the right of property, by taking the money of the colonists, without their consent; the right of trial by jury, by substituting in their place trials in admiralty and vice-admiralty courts, where single judges preside, holding their commissions during pleasure; and unduly to influence the courts of common law, by rendering the judges thereof totally dependent on the crown for their salaries.

These statutes, not to mention many others exceedingly exceptionable, compared, one with another, will be found, not only to form a regular system, in which every part has great force, but also a pertinacious adherence to that system, for subjugating these colonies, that are not, and, from local circumstances, cannot be represented in the house of commons, to the uncontrollable and unlimited power of parliament, in violation of their undoubted rights and liberties, in contempt of their humble and repeated supplications.

This conduct must appear equally astonishing and unjustifiable, when it is considered how unprovoked it has been by any behaviour of these colonies. From their first settlement, their bitterest enemies never fixed on any of them a charge of disloyalty to their sovereign, or disaffection to their mother-country. In the wars she has carried on, they have exerted themselves, whenever required, in giving her assistance; and have rendered her services, which she has publicly acknowledged to be extremely important. Their fidelity, duty and usefulness during the last war, were frequently and affectionately confessed, by his late majesty, and the present king.

The reproaches of those, who are most unfriendly to the freedom of America, are principally levelled against the province of Massachusetts-Bay; but with what little reason, will appear by the following declarations of a person, the truth of whose evidence, in their favour, will not be questioned. Governor Bernard thus addresses the two houses of assembly, in his speech, on the 24th of April, 1762,—“The unanimity and despatch, with which you have complied with the requisitions of his majesty, require my particular acknowledgment; and, it gives me additional pleasure to observe, that you have therein acted under no other influence than a due sense of your duty, both as members of a general empire, and as the body of a particular province.”

In another speech, on the 27th of May, in the same year, he says,—“Whatever shall be the event of the war, it must be no small satisfaction to us, that this province hath contributed its full share to the support of it. Every thing that hath been required of it, hath been complied with; and the execution of the powers committed to me, for raising the provincial troops, hath been as full and complete as the grant of them. Never, before, were regiments so easily levied, so well composed, and so early in the field as they have been this year: the common people seemed to be animated with the spirit of the general court, and to vie, with them, in their readiness to serve the king.”

Such was the conduct of the people of the Massachusetts-Bay, during the last war. As to their behaviour, before that period, it ought not to have been forgot in Great-Britain, that not only on every occasion, they had constantly and cheerfully complied with the frequent royal requisitions; but, that chiefly by their vigorous efforts, Nova-Scotia was subdued in 1710, and Louisbourg in 1745.

Foreign quarrels being ended, and the domestic disturbances, that quickly succeeded, on account of the stamp-act, being quieted by its repeal, the assembly of Massachusetts-Bay transmitted an humble address of thanks to the king and divers noblemen, and soon after passed a bill for granting compensation to the sufferers, in the disorder occasioned by that act.

These circumstances, and the following extracts, from governor Bernard's letters, in 1768, to the earl of Shelburne, secretary of state, clearly shew,

with what grateful tenderness they strove to bury, in oblivion, the unhappy occasion of the late discords, and with what respectful deference they endeavoured to escape other subjects of future controversy. "The house, (says the governor) from the time of opening the session to this day, has shewn a disposition to avoid all dispute with me: every thing having passed with as much good humour as I could desire, except only their continuing to act in addressing the king, remonstrating to the secretary of state, and employing a separate agent. It is the importance of this innovation, without any wilfulness of my own, which induces me to make this remonstrance, at a time when I have a fair prospect of having, in all other business nothing but good to say of the proceedings of the house."\*

"They have acted, in all things, even in their remonstrance, with temper and moderation; they have avoided some subjects of dispute, and have laid a foundation for removing some causes of former altercation."†

"I shall make such-a prudent and proper use of this letter, as I hope, will perfectly restore the peace and tranquillity of this province, for which purpose considerable steps have been made by the house of representatives."‡

The vindication of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, contained in these letters, will have greater force, if it be considered, that they were written several months after the fresh alarm given to the colonies, by the statutes passed in the preceding year.

In this place, it seems proper to take notice of the insinuation of one of those statutes, that the interference of parliament was necessary to provide for "defraying the charge of the administration of justice, the support of civil government, and defending the king's dominions in America."

As to the two first articles of expense, every colony had made such provision, as by their respective assemblies, the best judges on such occasions, was thought expedient, and suitable to their several circumstances: respecting the last, it is well known to all men, the least acquainted with American affairs, that the colonies were established, and generally defended themselves, without the least assistance from Great-Britain; and that, at the time of her taxing them, by the statutes before mentioned, most of them were labouring under very heavy debts contracted in the last war. So far were they from sparing their money, when their sovereign, constitutionally, asked their aids, that during the course of that war, parliament repeatedly made them compensations for the expenses of those strenuous efforts, which, consulting their zeal, rather than their strength, they had cheerfully incurred.

Severe as the acts of parliament, before mentioned, are, yet the conduct of administration hath been equally injurious, and irritating, to this devoted country.

Under pretence of governing them, so many new institutions, uniformly rigid and dangerous, have been introduced, as could only be expected from incensed masters, for collecting the tribute, or rather the plunder, of conquered provinces.

By an order of the king, the authority of the commander in chief, and under him, of the brigadier-generals, in time of peace, is rendered supreme in all the civil governments, in America; and thus, an uncontrollable military power is vested in officers, not known to the constitution of these colonies.

A large body of troops, and a considerable armament of ships of war, have been sent to assist in taking their money without their consent.

Expensive and oppressive offices have been multiplied, and the acts of corruption industriously practised to divide and destroy.

The judges of the admiralty and vice-admiralty courts, are empowered to receive their salaries and fees from the effects to be condemned by themselves.

\* January 21, 1768.

† January 30, 1768.

‡ February 2, 1768.

The commissioners of the customs are empowered to break open and enter houses, without the authority of any civil magistrate, founded on legal information.

Judges of courts of common law, have been made entirely dependent on the crown for their commissions and salaries.

A court has been established at Rhode-Island, for the purposes of taking colonists to England to be tried.

Humble and reasonable petitions, from the representatives of the people, have been frequently treated with contempt: and assemblies have been repeatedly and arbitrarily dissolved.

From some few instances, it will sufficiently appear, on what pretences of justice those dissolutions have been founded.

The tranquillity of the colonies having been again disturbed, as has been mentioned by the statutes of the year 1767, the earl of Hillsborough, secretary of state, in a letter to governor Bernard, dated April 22, 1768, censures the "presumption" of the house of representatives for "resolving upon a measure of so inflammatory a nature, as that of writing to the other colonies, on the subject of their intended representations against some late acts of parliament," then declares, that "his majesty considers this step as evidently tending to create unwarrantable combinations, to excite an unjustifiable opposition to the constitutional authority of parliament:"—and afterwards adds, "It is the king's pleasure, that as soon as the general court is again assembled, at the time prescribed by the charter, you should require of the house of representatives, in his majesty's name, to rescind the resolution which gave birth to the circular letter from the speaker, and to declare their disapprobation of, and dissent to, that rash and hasty proceeding."

"If the new assembly should refuse to comply with his majesty's reasonable expectation, it is the king's pleasure that you should immediately dissolve them."

This letter being laid before the house, and the resolution not being rescinded, according to order, the assembly was dissolved. A letter of a similar nature was sent to other governors to procure resolutions, approving the conduct of the representatives of Massachusetts-Bay, to be rescinded also; and the houses of representatives in other colonies, refusing to comply, assemblies were dissolved.

These mandates spoke a language, to which the ears of English subjects had for several generations been strangers. The nature of assemblies implies a power and right of deliberation; but these commands, proscribing the exercise of judgment on the propriety of the requisitions made, left to the assemblies only the election between dictated submission, and threatened punishment: A punishment too, founded on no other act, than such as is deemed innocent even in slaves—of agreeing in petitions for redress of grievances, that equally affect all.

The hostile and unjustifiable invasion of the town of Boston, soon followed these events, in the same year; though that town, the province in which it is situated, and all the colonies, from abhorrence of a contest with their parent state, permitted the execution, even of those statutes, against which they so unanimously were complaining, remonstrating, and supplicating.

Administration, determined to subdue a spirit of freedom, which English ministers should have rejoiced to cherish, entered into a monopolizing combination with the East-India company, to send to this continent vast quantities of tea, an article on which a duty was laid by a statute, that, in a particular manner, attacked the liberties of America, and which, therefore, the inhabitants of these colonies had resolved not to import. The cargo sent to South-Carolina was stored, and not allowed to be sold. Those sent to Philadelphia and New-York, were not permitted to be landed. That sent to Boston was destroyed, because governor Hutchinson would not suffer it to be returned.

On the intelligence of these transactions arriving in Great Britain, the public spirited town last mentioned, was singled out for destruction, and it was determined the province it belongs to should partake of its fate. In the last session of parliament, therefore, were passed the act for shutting up the port of Boston, indemnifying the murderers of the inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay, and changing their chartered constitution of government. To enforce these acts, that province is again invaded by a fleet and army.

To mention these outrageous proceedings, is sufficient to explain them. For though it is pretended that the province of Massachusetts-Bay, has been particularly disrespectful to Great-Britain, yet, in truth, the behaviour of the people in other colonies, has been an equal "opposition to the power assumed by parliament." No step, however, has been taken against any of the rest. This artful conduct conceals several designs. It is expected that the province of Massachusetts-Bay will be irritated into some violent action, that may displease the rest of the continent, or that may induce the people of Great-Britain to approve the meditated vengeance of an imprudent and exasperated ministry. If the unexampled pacific temper of that province shall disappoint this part of the plan, it is hoped the other colonies will be so far intimidated, as to desert their brethren, suffering in a common cause, and that thus disunited, all may be subdued.

To promote these designs, another measure has been pursued. In the session of parliament, last mentioned, an act was passed for changing the government of Quebec, by which act the Roman Catholic religion, instead of being tolerated, as stipulated by the treaty of peace, is established; and the people there are deprived of a right to an assembly, trials by jury, and the English laws, in civil cases, are abolished, and instead thereof the French laws are established, in direct violation of his majesty's promise by his royal proclamation, under the faith of which many English subjects settled in that province, and the limits of that province, are extended so as to comprehend those vast regions, that lie adjoining to the northerly and westerly boundaries of these colonies.

The authors of this arbitrary arrangement flatter themselves, that the inhabitants, deprived of liberty, and artfully provoked against those of another religion, will be proper instruments for assisting in the oppression of such as differ from them in modes of government and faith.

From the detail of facts, herein before recited, as well as from authentic intelligence received, it is clear beyond a doubt, that a resolution is formed, and now carrying into execution, to extinguish the freedom of these colonies, by subjecting them to a despotic government.

At this unhappy period, we have been authorized and directed to meet and consult together, for the welfare of our common country. We accepted the important trust with diffidence, but have endeavoured to discharge it with integrity. Though the state of these colonies would certainly justify other measures than we have advised, yet weighty reasons determined us to prefer those which we have adopted. In the first place, it appeared to us a conduct becoming the character these colonies have ever sustained, to perform, even in the midst of the unnatural distresses and imminent dangers that surround them, every act of loyalty, and therefore, we were induced once more to offer to his majesty, the petitions of his faithful and oppressed subjects in America. Secondly, regarding with the tender affection, which we knew to be so universal among our countrymen, the people of the kingdom, from which we derive our origin, we could not forbear to regulate our steps by an expectation of receiving full conviction, that the colonists are equally dear to them. Between these provinces and that body subsists the social band, which we ardently wish may never be dissolved, and which cannot be dissolved, until their minds shall become indisputably hostile, or their inattention shall permit those, who are thus hostile, to persist in prosecuting, with

the powers of the realm, the destructive measures already operating against the colonists, and, in either case, shall reduce the latter to such a situation, that they shall be compelled to renounce every regard, but that of self-preservation. Notwithstanding the violence with which affairs have been impelled, they have not yet reached that fatal point. We do not incline to accelerate their motion, already alarmingly rapid; we have chosen a method of opposition, that does not preclude a hearty reconciliation with our fellow-citizens, on the other side of the Atlantic. We deeply deplore the urgent necessity, that presses us to an immediate interruption of commerce, that may prove injurious to them. We trust they will acquit us of any unkind intentions towards them, by reflecting, that we are driven by the hands of violence, into unexperienced and unexpected public convulsions, and that we are contending for freedom, so often contended for by our ancestors.

The people of England will soon have an opportunity of declaring their sentiments concerning our cause. In their piety, generosity, and good sense, we repose high confidence; and cannot, upon a review of past events, be persuaded, that they, the defenders of true religion, and the asserters of the rights of mankind, will take part against their affectionate Protestant brethren in the colonies, in favour of our open and their own secret enemies, whose intrigues, for several years past, have been wholly exercised in sapping the foundations of civil and religious liberty.

Another reason, that engaged us to prefer the commercial mode of opposition, arose from an assurance, that the mode will prove efficacious, if it be persisted in with fidelity and virtue; and that your conduct will be influenced by these laudable principles, cannot be questioned. Your own salvation, and that of your posterity, now depends upon yourselves. You have already shewn that you entertain a proper sense of the blessings you are striving to retain. Against the temporary inconveniencies you may suffer from a stoppage of trade, you will weigh in the opposite balance, the endless miseries you and your descendants must endure, from an established arbitrary power. You will not forget the honour of your country, that must, from your behaviour, take its title in the estimation of the world, to glory, or to shame; and you will, with the deepest attention, reflect, that if the peaceable mode of opposition, recommended by us, be broken and rendered ineffectual, as your cruel and haughty ministerial enemies, from a contemptuous opinion of your firmness, insolently predict will be the case, you must inevitably be reduced to chuse, either a more dangerous contest, or a final, ruinous, and infamous submission.

Motives thus cogent, arising from the emergency of your unhappy condition, must excite your utmost diligence and zeal, to give all possible strength and energy to the pacific measures calculated for your relief: But we think ourselves bound in duty, to observe to you, that the schemes agitated against these colonies, have been so conducted, as to render it prudent, that you should extend your views to mournful events, and be, in all respects, prepared for every contingency. Above all things, we earnestly intreat you, with devotion of spirit, penitence of heart, and amendment of life, to humble yourselves and implore the favour of Almighty God: and we fervently beseech his divine goodness, to take you into his gracious protection.

*Resolved*, That an address be prepared to the people of Quebec, and letters to the colonies of St. John's, Nova-Scotia, Georgia, East and West Florida, who have not deputies to represent them in this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr Cushing, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Dickinson, be a committee to prepare the above address and letters.

The address to the king being brought in, was read, and after some debate,

*Ordered*, That the same be re-committed, and that Mr. J. Dickinson, be added to the committee.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the seizing, or attempting to seize, any person in America, in order to transport such person beyond the sea, for trial of offences, commit-

ted within the body of a county in America, being against law, will justify, and ought to meet with resistance and reprisal.

**SATURDAY, October 22, 1774.**

The hon. Peyton Randolph, esq. being unable to attend, on account of indisposition, the hon. Henry Middleton, esq. was chosen to supply his place, as president.

An address from Christopher Tully was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Journal of the proceedings of the Congress, as corrected, be sent to the press, and printed under the direction of Mr. Biddle, Mr. Dickinson, and the secretary.

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Congress, that it will be necessary, that another Congress should be held on the tenth day of May next, unless the redress of grievances, which we have desired, be obtained before that time. And we recommend, that the same be held at the city of Philadelphia, and that all the colonies, in North-America, chuse deputies, as soon as possible, to attend such Congress.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the colonies of St. John's, &c. reported a draught, which was read, and being amended, the same was approved, and is as follows :

PHILADELPHIA, October 22, 1774.

"GENTLEMEN,

"The present critical and truly alarming state of American affairs, having been considered in a general Congress of deputies, from the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, with that attention and mature deliberation, which the important nature of the case demands, they have determined, for themselves and the colonies they represent, on the measures contained in the enclosed papers; which measures they recommend to your colony to be adopted with all the earnestness, that a well directed zeal for American liberty can prompt.

"So rapidly violent and unjust has been the late conduct of the British administration against the colonies, that either a base and slavish submission, under the loss of their ancient, just, and constitutional liberty, must quickly take place, or an adequate opposition be formed.

"We pray God to take you under his protection, and to preserve the freedom and happiness of the whole British empire.

"By order of the Congress,

"HENRY MIDDLETON, *President.*"

**MONDAY, October 24, 1774.**

The address to the people of Quebec, being brought in, was read, and after some debate was re-committed.

The committee, to whom the address to the king was re-committed, reported a draught, which was read, and ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, October 25, 1774.**

The Congress resumed the consideration of the address to his majesty, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was, after some amendments, approved and ordered to be engrossed.

*Resolved*, That the address to the king, be enclosed in a letter to the several colony agents, in order that the same may be by them presented to his majesty; and that the agents be requested to call in the aid of such noblemen and gentlemen as are esteemed firm friends to American liberty.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee, and Mr. Jay, prepare a letter to the agents.

*Resolved*, That this Congress, in their own names, and in behalf of all those whom they represent, do present their most grateful acknowledgments to those truly noble, honourable, and patriotic advocates of civil and religious liberty, who have so generously and powerfully, though unsuccessfully, espoused and defended the cause of America, both in and out of parliament.

WEDNESDAY, *October 26, 1774.*

The letter to the agents, being brought in by the committee, was read, and approved as follows:—

PHILADELPHIA, *October 26, 1774.*

“GENTLEMEN,

“We give you the strongest proof of our reliance on your zeal and attachment to the happiness of America, and the cause of liberty, when we commit the enclosed paper to your care.

“We desire you will deliver the petition into the hands of his majesty, and after it has been presented, we wish it may be made public through the press, together with the list of grievances. And as we hope for great assistance from the spirit, virtue, and justice of the nation, it is our earnest desire, that the most effectual care be taken, as early as possible, to furnish the trading cities, and manufacturing towns, throughout the united kingdom, with our memorial to the people of Great Britain.

“We doubt not, but your good sense and discernment, will lead you to avail yourselves of every assistance, that may be derived from the advice and friendship of all great and good men who may incline to aid the cause of liberty and mankind.

“The gratitude of America, expressed in the enclosed vote of thanks, we desire may be conveyed to the deserving objects of it, in the manner you think will be most acceptable to them.

“It is proposed, that another Congress be held on the tenth of May next, at this place, but in the mean time, we beg the favour of you, gentlemen, to transmit to the speakers of the several assemblies, the earliest information of the most authentic accounts you can collect, of all such conduct and designs of ministry, or parliament, as it may concern America to know.

“We are, with unfeigned esteem and regard, Gentlemen, &c.

“By order and in behalf of the Congress,

“HENRY MIDDLETON, *President.*”

To Paul Wentworth, esq. Thomas Life, esq.  
Doctor Benj. Franklin, Edmund Burke, esq.  
William Bollen, esq. Charles Garth, esq.  
Doctor Arthur Lee.

The committee, to whom the address to the inhabitants of Quebec was re-committed, reported a draught, which was read, and being debated by paragraphs and amended, was approved, and is as follows:

To the Inhabitants of the Province of Quebec.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS,

WE, the delegates of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, deputed by the inhabitants of the said colonies, to represent them in a general Congress, at Philadelphia, in the province of Pennsylvania, to consult together, concerning the best methods to obtain redress of our afflicting grievances; having accordingly assembled, and taken into our most serious consideration, the state of public affairs on this continent, have thought proper to address your province, as a member therein deeply interested.

When the fortune of war, after a gallant and glorious resistance, had incorporated you with the body of English subjects, we rejoiced in the truly valuable addition, both on our own and your account; expecting, as courage and generosity are naturally united, our brave enemies would become our hearty friends, and that the divine Being would bless to you the dispensations of his over-ruling providence, by securing to you, and your latest posterity, the inestimable advantages of a free English constitution of government, which it is the privilege of all English subjects to enjoy.

These hopes were confirmed by the king's proclamation, issued in the year 1763, plighting the public faith for your full enjoyment of those advantages.

Little did we imagine that any succeeding ministers would so audaciously and cruelly abuse the royal authority, as to withhold from you the fruition of the irrevocable rights, to which you were thus justly entitled.

But since we have lived to see the unexpected time, when ministers of this flagitious temper, have dared to violate the most sacred compacts and obligations, and as you, educated under another form of government, have artfully been kept from discovering the unspeakable worth of that form you are now undoubtedly entitled to, we esteem it our duty, for the weighty reasons hereinafter mentioned, to explain to you some of its most important branches.

"In every human society," says the celebrated Marquis Beccaria, "there is an effort continually tending to confer on one part the height of power and happiness, and to reduce the other to the extreme of weakness and misery. The intent of good laws is to oppose this effort, and to diffuse their influence universally and equally."

Rulers stimulated by this pernicious "effort," and subjects animated by the just "intent of opposing good laws against it," have occasioned that vast variety of events, that fill the histories of so many nations. All these histories demonstrate the truth of this simple position, that to live by the will of one man, or set of men, is the production of misery to all men.

On the solid foundation of this principle, Englishmen reared up the fabrick of their constitution with such a strength, as for ages to defy time, tyranny, treachery, internal and foreign wars: And, as an illustrious author\* of your nation, hereafter mentioned, observes,—"They gave the people of their colonies, the form of their own government, and this government carrying prosperity along with it, they have grown great nations in the forests they were sent to inhabit."

In this form, the first grand right, is that of the people having a share in their own government, by their representatives chosen by themselves, and in consequence of being ruled by laws which they themselves approve, not by edicts of men, over whom they have no controul. This is a bulwark surrounding and defending their property, so that no portions of it can legally be taken from them, but with their own full and free consent, when they in their judgment deem it just and necessary to give them for public services, and precisely direct the easiest, cheapest, and most equal methods in which they shall be collected.

The influence of this right extends still farther. If money is wanted by rulers, who have in any manner oppressed the people, they may retain it, until their grievances are redressed; and thus peaceably procure relief, without trusting to despised petitions, or disturbing the public tranquillity.

The next great right is that of trial by jury. This provides, that neither life, liberty, nor property, can be taken from the possessor, until twelve of his unexceptionable countrymen and peers of his vicinage, who from that neighbourhood may reasonably be supposed to be acquainted with his character, and

\* Montesquieu.

the characters of the witnesses, upon a fair trial, and full enquiry, face to face, in open court, before as many of the people as chuse to attend, shall pass their sentence upon oath against him; a sentence that cannot injure him, without injuring their own reputation, and probably their interest also; as the question may turn on points, that, in some degree, concern the general welfare; and, if it does not, their verdict may form a precedent, that, on a similar trial of their own, may militate against themselves.

Another right relates merely to the liberty of the person. If a subject is seized and imprisoned, though by order of government, he may, by virtue of this right, immediately obtain a writ, termed a *habeas corpus*, from a judge, whose sworn duty it is to grant it, and thereupon procure any illegal restraint to be quickly enquired into, and redressed.

A fourth right, is that of holding lands by the tenure of easy rents, and not by rigorous and oppressive services, frequently forcing the possessors from their families, and their business, to perform what ought to be done, in all well regulated states, by men hired for the purpose.

The last right we shall mention, regards the freedom of the press. The importance of this consists, besides the advancement of truth, science, morality, and arts in general, in its diffusion of liberal sentiments on the administration of government, its ready communication of thoughts between subjects, and its consequential promotion of union among them, whereby oppressive officers are shamed or intimidated, into more honourable and just modes of conducting affairs.

These are the invaluable rights, that form a considerable part of our mild system of government; that, sending its equitable energy through all ranks and classes of men, defends the poor from the rich, the weak from the powerful, the industrious from the rapacious, the peaceable from the violent, the tenants from the lords, and all from their superiors.

These are the rights, without which a people cannot be free and happy, and under the protecting and encouraging influence of which, these colonies have hitherto so amazingly flourished and increased. These are the rights, a profligate ministry are now striving, by force of arms, to ravish from us, and which we are, with one mind, resolved never to resign but with our lives.

These are the rights you are entitled to, and ought, at this moment, in perfection, to exercise. And what is offered to you by the late act of parliament in their place? Liberty of conscience in your religion? No. God gave it to you; and the temporal powers with which you have been and are connected, firmly stipulated for your enjoyment of it. If laws, divine and human, could secure it against the despotic caprices of wicked men, it was secured before. Are the French laws in civil cases restored? It seems so. But observe the cautious kindness of the ministers, who pretend to be your benefactors. The words of the statute are—that those “laws shall be the rule, until they shall “be varied or altered by any ordinances of the governor and council.” Is the “certainty and lenity of the criminal law of England and its benefits and advantages,” commended in the said statute, and said to “have been sensibly felt by you,” secured to you and your descendants? No. They too are subjected to arbitrary “alterations” by the governor and council; and a power is expressly reserved of appointing “such courts of criminal, civil, and ecclesiastical jurisdiction, as shall be thought proper.” Such is the precarious tenure of mere will, by which you hold your lives and religion. The crown and its ministers are empowered, as far as they could be by parliament, to establish even the inquisition itself among you. Have you an assembly composed of worthy men, elected by yourselves, and in whom you can confide, to make laws for you, to watch over your welfare, and to direct in what quantity, and in what manner, your money shall be taken from you? No. The power of making laws for you is lodged in the governor and council, all of them depend-

ent upon, and removeable at, the pleasure of a minister. Besides, another late statute, made without your consent, has subjected you to the impositions of excise; the horror of all free states; thus wresting your property from you by the most odious of taxes, and laying open to insolent tax-gatherers, houses, the scenes of domestic peace and comfort, and called the castles of English subjects in the books of their law. And in the very act for altering your government, and intended to flatter you, you are not authorized to "assess, levy, or apply any rates and taxes, but for the inferior purposes of making roads, and erecting and repairing public buildings, or for other local conveniences, within your respective towns and districts." Why this degrading distinction? Ought not the property, honestly acquired by Canadians, to be held as sacred as that of Englishmen? Have not Canadians sense enough to attend to any other public affairs, than gathering stones from one place, and piling them up in another? Unhappy people! who are not only injured, but insulted. Nay more!—With such a superlative contempt of your understanding and spirit, has an insolent ministry presumed to think of you, our respectable fellow-subjects, according to the information we have received, as firmly to persuade themselves that your gratitude, for the injuries and insults they have recently offered to you, will engage you to take up arms, and render yourselves the ridicule and detestation of the world, by becoming tools, in their hands, to assist them in taking that freedom from us, which they have treacherously denied to you; the unavoidable consequence of which attempt, if successful, would be the extinction of all hopes of you or your posterity being ever restored to freedom: For idiocy itself cannot believe, that, when their drudgery is performed, they will treat you with less cruelty than they have us, who are of the same blood with themselves.

What would your countryman, the immortal Montesquieu, have said to such a plan of domination, as has been framed for you? Hear his words, with an intenseness of thought suited to the importance of the subject.—"In a free state, every man, who is supposed a free agent, ought to be concerned in his own government: Therefore the legislative should reside in the whole body of the people, or their representatives."—"The political liberty of the subject is a tranquillity of mind, arising from the opinion each person has of his safety. In order to have this liberty, it is requisite the government be so constituted, as that one man need not be afraid of another. When the power of making laws and the power of executing them, are united in the same person, or in the same body of magistrates, there can be no liberty; because apprehensions may arise, lest the same monarch or senate, should enact tyrannical laws, to execute them in a tyrannical manner."

"The power of judging should be exercised by persons taken from the body of the people, at certain times of the year, and pursuant to a form and manner prescribed by law. There is no liberty, if the power of judging be not separated from the legislative and executive powers."

"Military men belong to a profession, which may be useful, but is often dangerous."—"The enjoyment of liberty, and even its support and preservation, consists in every man's being allowed to speak his thoughts, and lay open his sentiments."

Apply these decisive maxims, sanctified by the authority of a name which all Europe reveres, to your own state. You have a governor, it may be urged, vested with the executive powers, or the powers of administration: In him, and in your council, is lodged the power of making laws. You have judges, who are to decide every cause affecting your lives, liberty or property. Here is, indeed, an appearance of the several powers being separated and distributed into different hands, for checks, one upon another; the only effectual mode ever invented by the wit of men, to promote their freedom and prosperity. But scorning to be illuded by a tinsel outside, and exerting the natural sagacity

of Frenchmen, examine the specious device, and you will find it, to use an expression of holy writ, "a white sepulchre," for burying your lives, liberty and property.

Your judges, and your legislative council, as it is called, are dependent on your governor, and he is dependent on the servant of the crown, in Great-Britain. The legislative, executive and judging powers are all moved by the nods of a minister. Privileges and immunities last no longer than his smiles. When he frowns, their feeble forms dissolve. Such a treacherous ingenuity has been exerted in drawing up the code lately offered you, that every sentence, beginning with a benevolent pretension, concludes with a destructive power; and the substance of the whole, divested of its smooth words, is—that the crown and its ministers shall be as absolute throughout your extended province, as the despots of Asia or Africa. What can protect your property from taxing edicts, and the rapacity of necessitous and cruel masters? Your persons from *lettres de cachet*, goals, dungeons, and oppressive services? your lives and general liberty from arbitrary and unfeeling rulers? We defy you, casting your view upon every side, to discover a single circumstance, promising from any quarter the faintest hope of liberty to you, or your posterity, but from an entire adoption into the union of these colonies.

What advice would the truly great man before-mentioned, that advocate of freedom and humanity, give you, was he now living, and knew that we, your numerous and powerful neighbours, animated by a just love of our invaded rights, and united by the indissoluble bands of affection and interest, called upon you, by every obligation of regard for yourselves and your children, as we now do, to join us in our righteous contest, to make common cause with us therein, and take a noble chance for emerging from a humiliating subjection under governors, intendants and military tyrants, into the firm rank and condition of English freemen, whose custom it is, derived from their ancestors, to make those tremble, who dare to think of making them miserable?

Would not this be the purport of his address? "Seize the opportunity presented to you by Providence itself. You have been conquered into liberty, if you act as you ought. This work is not, of man. You are a small people, compared to those who, with open arms, invite you into a fellowship. A moment's reflection should convince you which will be most for your interest and happiness, to have all the rest of North-America your unalterable friends, or your inveterate enemies. The injuries of Boston have roused and associated every colony, from Nova-Scotia to Georgia. Your province is the only link wanting, to complete the bright and strong chain of union. Nature has joined your country to theirs. Do you join your political interests. For their own sakes they never will desert or betray you. Be assured, that the happiness of a people inevitably depends on their liberty, and their spirit to assert it. The value and extent of the advantages tendered to you are immense. Heaven grant you may not discover them to be blessings after they have bid you an eternal adieu."

We are too well acquainted with the liberality of sentiment distinguishing your nation, to imagine, that difference of religion will prejudice you against a hearty amity with us. You know that the transcendant nature of freedom elevates those who unite in her cause, above all such low-minded infirmities. The Swiss cantons furnish a memorable proof of this truth. Their union is composed of Roman Catholic and Protestant states, living in the utmost concord and peace with one another, and thereby enabled, ever since they bravely vindicated their freedom, to defy and defeat every tyrant that has invaded them.

Should there be any among you, as there generally are in all societies, who prefer the favours of ministers, and their own private interests, to the welfare of their country, the temper of such selfish persons will render them incredi-

bly active in opposing all public-spirited measures, from an expectation of being well rewarded for their sordid industry, by their superiors ; but we doubt not you will be upon your guard against such men, and not sacrifice the liberty and happiness of the whole Canadian people and their posterity, to gratify the avarice and ambition of individuals.

We do not ask you, by this address, to commence acts of hostility against the government of our common sovereign. We only invite you to consult your own glory and welfare, and not to suffer yourselves to be inveigled or intimidated by infamous ministers, so far as to become the instruments of their cruelty and despotism ; but to unite with us in one social compact, formed on the generous principles of equal liberty, and cemented by such an exchange of beneficial and endearing offices as to render it perpetual. In order to complete this highly desirable union, we submit it to your consideration, whether it may not be expedient for you to meet together, in your several towns and districts, and elect deputies, who afterwards meeting in a provincial Congress, may chuse delegates, to represent your province in the Continental Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May, 1775.

In this present Congress, beginning on the fifth of the last month, and continued to this day, it has been with universal pleasure, and an unanimous vote, resolved, that we should consider the violation of your rights, by the act for altering the government of your province, as a violation of our own, and that you should be invited to accede to our confederation, which has no other objects than the perfect security of the natural and civil rights of all the constituent members, according to their respective circumstances, and the preservation of a happy and lasting connexion with Great-Britain, on the salutary and constitutional principles herein before-mentioned. For effecting these purposes, we have addressed an humble and loyal petition to his majesty, praying relief of our and your grievances ; and have associated to stop all importations from Great-Britain and Ireland, after the first day of December, and all exportations to those kingdoms and the West-Indies, after the tenth day of next September ; unless the said grievances are redressed.

That Almighty God may incline your minds to approve our equitable and necessary measures, to add yourselves to us, to put your fate, whenever you suffer injuries which you are determined to oppose, not on the small influence of your single province, but on the consolidated powers of North-America ; and may grant to our joint exertions, an event as happy as our cause is just, is the fervent prayer of us, your sincere and affectionate friends and fellow-subjects.

By order of the Congress.

HENRY MIDDLETON, *President.*

*Resolved*, That the address of the Congress to the people of Quebec, be signed by the President, and that the delegates of the province of Pennsylvania superintend the translating, printing, publishing, and dispersing it : And it is recommended by the Congress to the delegates of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, and New-York, to assist in, and forward the dispersion of, the said address.

Two copies of the address to the king, being engrossed and compared, were signed at the table by all the members.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the honorable House of Representatives of the colony of Pennsylvania, for their politeness to this Congress ; and that the delegates for this colony be a committee to communicate this resolution to the said honorable House.

A true copy,

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

The Congress then dissolved itself.

*A letter from general Gage to Peyton Randolph, esquire.*

BOSTON, October 20th, 1774.

SIR,

Representations should be made with candour, and matters stated exactly as they stand. People would be led to believe, from your letter to me of the 10th instant, that works were raised against the town of Boston, private property invaded, the soldiers suffered to insult the inhabitants, and the communication between the town and country, shut up and molested.

Nothing can be farther from the true situation of this place than the above state. There is not a single gun pointed against the town, no man's property has been seized or hurt, except the king's, by the people's destroying straw, bricks, &c. bought for his service. No troops have given less cause for complaint, and greater care was never taken to prevent it; and such care and attention was never more necessary from the insults and provocations daily given to both officers and soldiers. The communication between the town and country has been always free and unmolested, and is so still.

Two works of earth have been raised at some distance from the town, wide off the road, and guns put in them. The remainder of old works, going out of the town, have been strengthened, and guns placed there likewise. People will think differently, whether the hostile preparation throughout the country, and the menaces of blood and slaughter, made this necessary; but I am to do my duty.

It gives me pleasure that you are endeavouring at a cordial reconciliation with the mother country, which, from what has transpired, I have despaired of. Nobody wishes better success to such measures than myself. I have endeavoured to be a mediator, if I could establish a foundation to work upon, and have strongly urged it to people here to pay for the tea, and send a proper memorial to the king, which would be a good beginning on their side, and give their friends the opportunity they seek to move in their support.

I do not believe that menaces, and unfriendly proceedings, will have the effect which too many conceive. The spirit of the British nation was high when I left England, and such measures will not abate it. But I should hope that decency and moderation here, would create the same disposition at home; and I ardently wish that the common enemies to both countries may see, to their disappointment, that these disputes, between the mother-country and the colonies, have terminated like the quarrels of lovers, and increased the affection which they ought to bear to each other.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS GAGE.

#### THE PETITION OF CONGRESS.

*To the king's Most Excellent Majesty.*

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, your majesty's faithful subjects, of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, in behalf of ourselves and the inhabitants of these colonies, who have deputed us to represent them in general Congress, by this our humble petition, beg leave to lay our grievances before the throne.

A standing army has been kept in these colonies, ever since the conclusion of the late war, without the consent of our assemblies; and this army, with a considerable naval armament, has been employed to enforce the collection of taxes.

The authority of the commander in chief, and under him the brigadier-general has, in time of peace, been rendered supreme in all the civil governments in America.

The commander in chief of all your majesty's forces in North-America, has, in time of peace, been appointed governor of a colony.

The charges of usual offices have been greatly increased; and, new, expensive, and oppressive offices have been multiplied.

The judges of admiralty and vice-admiralty courts, are empowered to receive their salaries and fees from the effects condemned by themselves.

The officers of the customs are empowered to break open and enter houses, without the authority of any civil magistrate, founded on legal information.

The judges of courts of common law have been made entirely dependent on one part of the legislature for their salaries, as well as for the duration of their commissions.

Counsellors, holding their commissions during pleasure, exercise legislative authority.

Humble and reasonable petitions, from the representatives of the people, have been fruitless.

The agents of the people have been discountenanced, and governors have been instructed to prevent the payment of the salaries.

Assemblies have been repeatedly and injuriously dissolved.

Commerce has been burthened with many useless and oppressive restrictions.

By several acts of parliament made in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth years of your majesty's reign, duties are imposed on us, for the purpose of raising a revenue; and the powers of admiralty and vice-admiralty courts are extended beyond their ancient limits, whereby our property is taken from us without our consent, the trial by jury, in many civil cases, is abolished, enormous forfeitures are incurred for slight offences, vexatious informers are exempted from paying damages, to which they are justly liable, and oppressive security is required from owners before they are allowed to defend their right.

Both houses of parliament have resolved, that colonists may be tried in England for offences alleged to have been committed in America, by virtue of a statute passed in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth; and, in consequence thereof, attempts have been made to enforce that statute.

A statute was passed in the twelfth year of your majesty's reign, directing, that persons charged with committing any offence therein described, in any place out of the realm, may be indicted and tried for the same, in any shire or county within the realm, whereby inhabitants of these colonies may, in sundry cases, by that statute made capital, be deprived of a trial by their peers of the vicinage.

In the last session of parliament, an act was passed for blocking up the harbour of Boston; another empowering the governor of the Massachusetts-Bay, to send persons indicted for murder in that province, to another colony, or, even to Great-Britain for trial, whereby such offenders may escape legal punishment; a third for altering the chartered constitution of government in that province; and a fourth for extending the limits of Quebec, abolishing the English and restoring the French laws, whereby great numbers of British Frenchmen are subjected to the latter, and establishing an absolute government and the Roman Catholic religion throughout those vast regions, that border on the westerly and northerly boundaries of the free, Protestant, English settlements; and a fifth, for the better providing suitable quarters for officers and soldiers, in his majesty's service, in North-America.

To a sovereign, who glories in the name of Britain, the bare recital of these acts must, we presume, justify the loyal subjects, who fly to the foot of his throne, and implore his clemency for protection against them.

From this destructive system of colony administration, adopted since the conclusion of the last war, have flowed those distresses, dangers, fears, and jealousies, that overwhelm your majesty's dutiful colonists with affliction: and we defy our most subtle and inveterate enemies to trace the unhappy

differences between Great-Britain and these colonies, from an earlier period, or from other causes than we have assigned. Had they proceeded on our part from a restless levity of temper, unjust impulses of ambition, or artful suggestions of seditious persons, we should merit the opprobrious terms frequently bestowed upon us by those we revere. But so far from promoting innovations, we have only opposed them; and can be charged with no offence, unless it be one to receive injuries, and be sensible of them.

Had our Creator been pleased to give us existence in a land of slavery, the sense of our condition might have been mitigated by ignorance and habit. But, thanks be to his adorable goodness, we were born the heirs of freedom, and ever enjoyed our right under the auspices of your royal ancestors, whose family was seated on the British throne, to rescue and secure a pious and gallant nation from the popery and despotism of a superstitious and inexorable tyrant. Your majesty, we are confident, justly rejoices, that your title to the crown is thus founded on the title of your people to liberty; and, therefore, we doubt not but your royal wisdom must approve the sensibility, that teaches your subjects anxiously to guard the blessing, they received from divine Providence, and thereby to prove the performance of that compact, which elevated the illustrious house of Brunswick to the imperial dignity it now possesses.

The apprehension of being degraded into a state of servitude, from the pre-eminent rank of English freemen, while our minds retain the strongest love of liberty, and clearly foresee the miseries preparing for us and our posterity, excites emotions in our breasts, which though we cannot describe, we should not wish to conceal. Feeling as men and thinking as subjects in the manner we do, silence would be disloyalty. By giving this faithful information, we do all in our power to promote the great object of your royal cares, the tranquillity of your government, and the welfare of your people.

Duty to your majesty, and regard for the preservation of ourselves and our posterity, the primary obligations of nature and society, command us to entreat your royal attention; and as your majesty enjoys the signal distinction of reigning over freemen, we apprehend the language of freemen cannot be displeasing. Your royal indignation, we hope, will rather fall on those designing and dangerous men, who daringly interposing themselves between your royal person and your faithful subjects, and for several years past incessantly employed to dissolve the bonds of society, by abusing your majesty's authority, misrepresenting your American subjects, and prosecuting the most desperate and irritating projects of oppression, have at length compelled us, by the force of accumulated injuries, too severe to be any longer tolerable, to disturb your majesty's repose by our complaints.

These sentiments are extorted from hearts, that much more willingly would bleed in your majesty's service. Yet so greatly have we been misrepresented, that a necessity has been alleged of taking our property from us, without our consent, "to defray the charge of the administration of justice, the support of civil government, and the defence, protection and security of the colonies." But we beg leave to assure your majesty, that such provision has been, and will be made for defraying the two first articles, as has been and shall be judged, by the legislatures of the several colonies, just and suitable to their respective circumstances: and, for the defence, protection, and security of the colonies, their militias, if properly regulated, as they earnestly desire may immediately be done, would be fully sufficient, at least in times of peace; and, in case of war, your faithful colonists will be ready and willing, as they ever have been, when constitutionally required, to demonstrate their loyalty to your majesty, by exerting their most strenuous efforts in granting supplies and raising forces. Yielding to no British subjects in affectionate attachment to your majesty's person, family, and government; we too dearly prize the privilege of expressing that attachment by those proofs, that are honorable to the prince who

receives them, and to the people who give them, ever to resign it to any body of men upon earth.

Had we been permitted to enjoy, in quiet, the inheritance left us by our fore-fathers, we should, at this time, have been peaceably, cheerfully, and usefully employed in recommending ourselves, by every testimony of devotion, to your majesty, and of veneration to the state, from which we derive our origin. But though now exposed to unexpected and unnatural scenes of distress by a contention with that nation, in whose parental guidance on all important affairs, we have hitherto, with filial reverence, constantly trusted, and therefore can derive no instruction in our present unhappy and perplexing circumstances from any former experience; yet, we doubt not, the purity of our intention, and the integrity of our conduct, will justify us at that grand tribunal, before which all mankind must submit to judgment.

We ask but for peace, liberty, and safety. We wish not a diminution of the prerogative, nor do we solicit the grant of any new right in our favour. Your royal authority over us, and our connexion with Great Britain, we shall always carefully and zealously endeavour to support and maintain.

Filled with sentiments of duty to your majesty, and of affection to our parent state, deeply impressed by our education, and strongly confirmed by our reason, and anxious to evince the sincerity of these dispositions, we present this petition only to obtain redress of grievances, and relief from fears and jealousies, occasioned by the system of statutes and regulations adopted since the close of the late war, for raising a revenue in America—extending the powers of courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty—trying persons in Great-Britain for offences alleged to have been committed in America—affecting the province of Massachusetts-Bay—and altering the government and extending the limits of Quebec: by the abolition of which system, the harmony between Great-Britain and these colonies, so necessary to the happiness of both, and so ardently desired by the latter, and the usual intercourses will be immediately restored. In the magnanimity and justice of your majesty and parliament, we confide for a redress of our other grievances, trusting, that, when the causes of our apprehensions are removed, our future conduct will prove us not unworthy of the regard we have been accustomed, in our happier days, to enjoy. For, appealing to that Being who searches, thoroughly, the hearts of his creatures, we solemnly profess, that our councils have been influenced by no other motive, than a dread of impending destruction.

Permit us, then, most gracious sovereign, in the name of all your faithful people in America, with the utmost humility, to implore you, for the honor of Almighty God, whose pure religion our enemies are undermining; for your glory, which can be advanced only by rendering your subjects happy, and keeping them united; for the interests of your family depending on an adherence to the principles that enthroned it; for the safety and welfare of your kingdoms and dominions, threatened with almost unavoidable dangers and distresses, that your majesty, as the loving father of your whole people; connected by the same bonds of law, loyalty, faith, and blood, though dwelling in various countries, will not suffer the transcendent relation formed by these ties to be farther violated, in uncertain expectation of effects, that, if attained, never can compensate for the calamities through which they must be gained.

We, therefore, most earnestly beseech your majesty, that your royal authority and interposition may be used for our relief, and that a gracious answer may be given to this petition.

That your majesty may enjoy every felicity through a long and glorious reign, over loyal and happy subjects, and that your descendents may inherit your prosperity and dominions till time shall be no more, is, and always will be, our sincere and fervent prayer.

# JOURNALS OF CONGRESS.

1775.

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WEDNESDAY, *May 10, 1775.*

A number of delegates from the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware Counties, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, agreeable to their appointment and orders, received from their respective colonies, met at Philadelphia, and being convened in the state-house, proceeded to the choice of a president; when,

*Upon motion,* The hon. Peyton Randolph was unanimously chosen president.

After the president was seated,

Mr. Charles Thomson was unanimously chosen secretary.

Andrew M'Neare was also chosen door-keeper, and William Shed, messenger.

*Agreed,* That the rev. Mr. Duche be requested to open the Congress with prayers to-morrow morning; and that Mr. Willing, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Bland, be a committee to wait on Mr. Duche, and acquaint him with the request of the Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, *May 11, 1775, A. M.*

Agreeable to the order of yesterday, the Congress was opened with prayers, by the rev. Mr. Duche. After prayers, the Congress, according to adjournment, proceeded to business.

The delegates from the several colonies, produced their respective credentials, which were read and approved, as follows:

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

At the convention of deputies, appointed by the several towns in the province aforesaid, held at Exeter, on the 25th day of January, 1775,

The hon. JOHN WENTWORTH, esq. in the chair.

*Voted,* That John Sullivan and John Langdon, esqrs. be delegated to represent this province, in the Continental Congress, proposed to be held at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next, and that they and each of them, in the absence of the other, have full and ample power, in behalf of this province, to consent and agree to all measures, which said Congress shall deem necessary, to obtain redress of American grievances.

True copy attested,

MASHECK WEARE, *Clerk to the Convention.*

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PROVINCE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, CAMBRIDGE,  
*Dec. 5, 1774.*

*Resolved,* That the proceedings of the American Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia, on the 5th day of September last, and reported by the honorable delegates from this colony, have, with the deliberation due to their high importance, been considered by us; and the American bill of rights, therein contained, appears to be formed with the greatest ability and judgment, to be founded on the immutable laws of nature and reason, the principles of the

English constitution, and respective charters and constitutions of the colonies, and to be worthy of their most vigorous support, as essentially necessary to liberty; likewise the ruinous and iniquitous measures, which, in violation of these rights, at present convulse and threaten destruction to America, appear to be clearly pointed out, and judicious plans adopted for defeating them.

*Resolved*, That the most grateful acknowledgments are due to the truly honorable and patriotic members of the Continental Congress, for their wise and able exertions in the cause of American liberty; and this Congress, in their own names, and in behalf of this colony, do hereby, with the utmost sincerity, express the same.

*Resolved*, That the hon. John Hancock, the hon. Thomas Cushing, esqrs. Mr. Samuel Adams, John Adams, and Robert Treat Paine, esqrs. or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this colony, on the tenth of May next, or sooner if necessary, at the American Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, with full power, with the delegates from the other American colonies, to concert, agree upon, direct and order such further measures, as shall to them appear to be best calculated for the recovery and establishment of American rights and liberties, and for restoring harmony between Great-Britain and the colonies.

A true copy of record,  
BENJAMIN LINCOLN, *Secretary*.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, CAMBRIDGE, *February 6, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the hon. John Hancock, the hon. Thomas Cushing, esqrs. Mr. Samuel Adams, John Adams, and Robert Treat Paine, esqrs. appointed by the last provincial Congress to represent this colony, on the tenth of May next, or sooner if necessary, at the American Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, with the delegates from the other American colonies, to adjourn from time to time, and place to place, as shall be judged necessary, and to continue in being, as delegates for this colony, until the thirty-first day of December next ensuing, and no longer.

A true copy of record,  
BENJAMIN LINCOLN, *Secretary*.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COLONY OF CONNECTICUT.  
*November 3, A. D. 1774.*

This house proceeded to nominate, chuse, and appoint delegates, to attend the general Congress, to be holden at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next; and made choice of the honorable Eliphalet Dyer, honorable Roger Sherman, Silas Deane, \* Titus Hosmer, and \* Jonathan Sturges, esqrs. to be their delegates, any three of whom are authorized and empowered to attend said Congress, in behalf of this colony, to join, consult and advise with the delegates of the other colonies in British America, on proper measures for advancing the best good of the colonies.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

A true copy, extracted from the journals of the house.

Attested,

RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

At a provincial convention formed of deputies from the city and county of New-York, the city and county of Albany, and the counties of Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, West-Chester, King's, and Suffolk, held at the city of New-York, the 22d day of April, 1775, for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent the colony of New-York, in the next Continental Congress, to be

held at Philadelphia, on the tenth of May next, Philip Livingston, James Duane, John Alsop, \* John Jay, Simon Boerum, William Floyd, \* Henry Wisner, \* Philip Schuyler, \* George Clinton, Lewis Morris, \* Francis Lewis, and \* Robert R. Livingston, jun. esqrs. were unanimously elected delegates, to represent this colony at such Congress, with full power to them, or any five of them, to meet the delegates' from the other colonies, and to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation and re-establishment of American rights and privileges, and for the restoration of harmony between Great-Britain and the colonies.

Signed, Leonard Lispenard, Isaac Roosevelt, Abraham Walton, Alexander M'Dougall, and twenty-four others.

We, the subscribers, do, in behalf of ourselves, and those free-holders of Queen's county, at whose request we attended the convention, signify our assent to, and approbation of, the above delegation.

Signed, John Fulman, Zebulon Williams, Jacob Blackwell, Joseph Robinson.

#### NEW-JERSEY.

IN ASSEMBLY, PERTH-AMBOY, *Tuesday, January 24, 1775.*

*Resolved unanimously*, That James Kinsey, Stephen Crane, William Livingston, John De Hart, and Richard Smith, esqrs. or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed to attend the Continental Congress of the colonies, intended to be held at the city of Philadelphia, in May next, or at any other time and place; and that they report their proceedings to the next session of general assembly.

A true copy from the journals,

RICHARD SMITH, *Clerk of the Assembly.*

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

IN ASSEMBLY, *December 15, 1774, A. M.*

Upon motion,

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That the honorable Edward Biddle, John Dickinson, Thomas Mifflin, Charles Humphreys, John Morton, and George Ross, esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed deputies on the part of this province, to attend the general Congress, proposed to be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next; and that they or any four of them do meet the said Congress accordingly, unless the present grievances of the American colonies shall before that time be redressed.

Extract from the journals,

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of the Assembly.*

IN ASSEMBLY, *May 6, 1775, A. M.*

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That Benjamin Franklin, the honorable Thomas Willing, and \* James Wilson, esqrs. be, and they are hereby added to the deputies appointed by this house, to attend the Continental Congress, expected to meet the tenth instant, in this city.

Extract from the journals,

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of the Assembly.*

#### LOWER COUNTIES ON DELAWARE.

IN ASSEMBLY, *Thursday, March 16, 1775, A. M.*

On motion,

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That the honorable Cæsar Rodney, Thomas M'Kean, and George Read, esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized

Note—All the members attended, except those marked thus.\*

to represent this government at the American Congress, proposed to be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next, or at any other time or place, with full power to them, or any two of them, together with the delegates from the other American colonies, to concert and agree upon such farther measures, as shall appear to them best calculated for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between Great-Britain and the colonies, on a constitutional foundation, which the house most ardently wish for, and that they report their proceedings to the next sessions of general assembly.

True copy of minutes of assembly,

DAVID THOMSON, *Clerk to the Assembly.*

#### MARYLAND.

At a meeting of the deputies, appointed by the several counties of the province of Maryland, at the city of Annapolis, by adjournment, on the 8th of December, 1774, and continued till the 12th day of the same month,

*Resolved unanimously*, That the honorable Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Johnson, junior, \* Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Samuel Chase, John Hall, and \* Thomas Stone, esqrs. or any three or more of them, be delegates to represent this province, in the next Continental Congress; and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures, which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of American grievances; and this province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorize our said delegates, to represent and act for this province, in any one Congress, to be held by virtue of such adjournment.

Signed by order,

JOHN DUCKET, *Clerk.*

#### VIRGINIA.

At a convention of delegates for the counties and corporations in the colony of Virginia, at the town of Richmond, in the county of Henrico, on Monday, the 20th of March, 1775;

The convention proceeded to the election of delegates, by ballot, to represent this colony in general Congress, to be held at the city of Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next, when the honorable Peyton Randolph, George Washington, \* Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison, and Richard Bland, esqrs. were chosen for that purpose.

PEYTON RANDOLPH, *President,*

JOHN TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention.*

#### NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a general meeting of delegates of the inhabitants of this province, in convention, at Newbern, the 5th day of April, 1775;

Present; the honorable John Harvey, esq. moderator, and 68 members:

On motion,

*Resolved*, That William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and Richard Caswell, esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed delegates to attend the general Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next, or at any other time and place that shall be appointed for that purpose, and they are hereby invested with such powers as may make any acts done by them, or any of them, or consent given in behalf of this province, obligatory, in honor, upon every inhabitant thereof.

A true copy from the minutes,

JOHN HARVEY, *Moderator.*

Attested by ANDREW KNOX, *Clerk.*

IN THE ASSEMBLY, 7th of April, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the house do highly approve of the proceedings of the Continental Congress, lately held at Philadelphia, and that they are determined, as members of the community in general, that they will strictly adhere to the said resolutions, and will use what influence they have, to induce the same observance in every individual of this province.

This house having received information, that William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and Richard Caswell, esquires, were appointed by the convention, held at Newbern, as delegates to attend the meeting of the Continental Congress, soon to be held at Philadelphia;

*Resolved*, That the house approve of the choice made by the said convention.

A true copy from the journal of the house of assembly,

JAMES GREEN, junior, *Clerk*.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

IN THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, FRIDAY, February 3, 1775.

WHEREAS the Continental Congress, held at the city of Philadelphia, in September last, amongst other things, recommended to the several colonies in North-America, to chuse deputies as soon as possible, to hold another Congress at the same place, on the tenth day of May next, and this house being fully satisfied with the conduct and fidelity of their late deputies at the Congress, do hereby nominate and appoint the honorable Henry Middleton, esq. Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsden, John Rutledge, and Edward Rutledge, esquires, deputies for and in behalf of this colony, to meet the deputies appointed, or to be appointed, on the part and behalf of the other colonies, at the city of Philadelphia, or any other place, that shall be agreed on by the said deputies in general Congress, with full power and authority to concert, agree to, and effectually prosecute such measures, as in the opinion of the said deputies, and the deputies to be assembled, shall be most likely to obtain a redress of American grievances.

*Resolved*, That the deputies hereby appointed on the part and behalf of this colony, are authorized and empowered to agree, that the Continental Congress may meet at any future time, and at such place, as shall be agreed on, and to adjourn from time to time; provided it do not exceed nine months from the date of their meeting in May next.

Attested,

THOMAS FARR, junior, *Clerk*.

*Extract from the journals of the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, published by order of the Congress, the 11th of January, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the honorable Henry Middleton, esquire, Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsden, John Rutledge, and Edward Rutledge, esquires, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this colony, on the tenth day of May next, or sooner, if necessary, at the American Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, or elsewhere; with full power to concert, agree upon, direct and order such further measures, as, in the opinion of the said deputies, and the delegates of the other American colonies to be assembled, shall appear to be necessary for the recovery and establishment of American rights and liberties, and for restoring harmony between Great-Britain and her colonies.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Congress be given to the rev. Mr. Duche, for performing divine service, agreeable to the desire of the Congress, and for his excellent prayer so well adapted to the present occasion.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bland, Mr. Willing, and Mr. Sullivan, be a committee to wait upon Mr. Duche, and return the thanks of the Congress, agreeable to the above resolution.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the doors be kept shut, during the time of business, and that the members consider themselves under the strongest obligations of honor to keep the proceedings secret, until the majority shall direct them to be made public.

A circular letter from the agents, William Bollen, Benjamin Franklin, and Arthur Lee, esquires, directed to the speakers of several assemblies, and sundry papers therein referred to, were laid before the Congress and read; the letter is as follows :

“LONDON, *February 5, 1775.*

“SIR,

“Our last letter informed you, that the king had declared his intentions of laying the petition before his two houses of parliament. It has accordingly been laid before each house, but undistinguished among a variety of letters and other papers from America.

“A motion made by lord Chatham, to withdraw the troops from Boston, as the first step towards a conciliating plan, was rejected; and the ministry have declared in both houses the determination to enforce obedience to all the late laws. For this purpose, we understand, that three regiments of foot, one of dragoons, seven hundred marines, six sloops of war, and two frigates, are now under orders for America.

“We think it proper to inform you, that your cause was well defended by a considerable number of good and wise men in both houses of parliament, though far from being a majority: and that many of the commercial and manufacturing parts of the nation, concerned in the American trade, have presented, or, as we understand, are preparing to present, petitions to parliament, declaring their great concern, for the present unhappy controversies with America, and praying expressly, or in effect, for healing measures, as the proper means of preserving their commerce, now greatly suffering or endangered. But the treatment the petitions, already presented, have hitherto received, is such, as, in our opinion, can afford you no reliance on the present relief through their means.

“As soon as we learnt that the petition of the Congress was before the house of commons, we thought it our duty to support it, if we might be permitted so to do, as there was no other opportunity for the numerous inhabitants of the colonies to be heard in defence of their rights: accordingly, we joined in a petition for that purpose. Sir George Saville kindly undertook to present it. But, on previously opening the purport of it, as the order is, a debate arose on the propriety of receiving it, and on a division, it was rejected by a great majority.

“The following extract of a letter from general Gage to lord Dartmouth, as laid before parliament, we think it our duty to transmit, viz.

“Dec. 15, 1774. Your lordship's idea of disarming certain provinces, would doubtless be consistent with prudence and safety, but it neither is, nor has been practicable, without having recourse to force, and being masters of the country.”

“It was thrown out in debate by a principal member of administration, that it would be proper to alter the charters of Connecticut and Rhode-Island.

“Inclosed, we send you a copy of the resolutions passed in a committee of the whole house, on Thursday last, which are to be reported on Monday. It is said that these resolutions are to be the foundation of several bills to be brought in, but the purport of those bills we have not yet learnt with sufficient certainty.

“We send you likewise, a copy of lord Chatham's first motion in the house of lords, and of his plan of a bill for settling the troubles between Great-Britain and the colonies; both which were rejected on the first reading.

With great respect, we are, sir,

Your most obedient, humble servants,

WILLIAM BOLLEN,  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
ARTHUR LEE.”

(Signed)

The papers referred to in the foregoing letter, being published in the newspapers, it is not necessary to insert them.

Mr. Hancock laid before the Congress a letter from the provincial Congress of Massachusetts-Bay, together with certain resolutions formed by said Congress, and a copy of a letter, sent by said Congress to their agent in England, and an address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, on the late engagement between the troops under general Gage, and the inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay; also a number of depositions, duly attested, relative to the commencement of said hostilities, all which were read, and are as follows:

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, *May 3, 1775.*

To the honorable American Continental Congress, to be convened at Philadelphia, on the tenth of May instant.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

The Congress of this colony, impressed with the deepest concern for their country, under the present critical and alarming state of its public affairs, beg leave, with the utmost submission, whilst acting in support of the cause of America, to request the direction and assistance of your respectable assembly.

The inclosed packet, containing copies of the depositions, which we have despatched for London, also an address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, and a letter to our colony agent, Benjamin Franklin, esq. are humbly submitted to your consideration.

The sanguinary zeal of the ministerial army, to ruin and destroy the inhabitants of this colony, in the opinion of this Congress, hath rendered the establishment of an army indispensably necessary; we have accordingly passed an unanimous resolve for thirteen thousand six hundred men, to be forthwith raised by this colony, and proposals are made by us to the Congress of New-Hampshire, and governments of Rhode-Island and Connecticut colonies, for furnishing men in the same proportion.

The sudden exigency of our public affairs, precluded the possibility of waiting for your direction in these important measures, more especially, as a considerable reinforcement from Great-Britain is daily expected in this colony, and we are now reduced to the sad alternative of defending ourselves by arms, or submitting to be slaughtered.

With the greatest deference, we beg leave to suggest, that a powerful army, on the side of America, hath been considered, by this Congress, as the only means left to stem the rapid progress of a tyrannical ministry. Without a force, superior to our enemies, we must reasonably expect to become the victims of their relentless fury. With such a force, we may still have hopes of seeing an immediate end put to the inhuman ravages of mercenary troops in America, and the wicked authors of our miseries, brought to condign punishment, by the just indignation of our brethren in Great-Britain.

We hope that this colony will, at all times, be ready to spend and be spent in the cause of America. It is, nevertheless, a misfortune greatly operating to its disadvantage, that it has a great number of sea-port towns, exposed to the approach of the enemy by sea; from many of which, the inhabitants have removed, and are removing their families and effects, to avoid destruction from ships of war. These, we apprehend, will be generally distressed from want of subsistence, and disabled from contributing aid for supporting the forces of the colony; but we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and ability of the continent to support us, so far as it shall appear necessary for supporting the common cause of the American colonies.

We also inclose several resolves for empowering and directing our receiver-general to borrow the sum of one hundred thousand pounds, lawful money, and to issue his notes for the same; it being the only measures, which we could have recourse to, for supporting our forces; and we request your assistance in rendering our measures effectual, by giving our notes a currency through the continent.

JOSEPH WARREN, *President, P. T.*

The papers inclosed, and referred to, in the above, are as follows:

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, *May 3, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the receiver-general be, and hereby is empowered to borrow the sum of one hundred thousand pounds, lawful money, and issue colony security for the same, payable, with annual interest, at six per cent. June 1, 1777, and that the continental Congress be desired to recommend to the several colonies, to give a currency to such securities.

A true extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary, P. T.*

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, *May 3, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the securities given by the receiver-general for the monies borrowed by him, in pursuance of the foregoing resolve, be in the form following, viz.

COLONY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

No.                      the                      day of                      A. D. 177                      bor-  
rowed and received of                      A. B.                      the sum of  
lawful money, for the use and service of the colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, and in behalf of said colony. I do hereby promise and oblige myself, and successors in the office of treasurer, or receiver-general, to repay to the said or to his order, the first day of June, 1777, the aforesaid sum of                      lawful money, in Spanish milled dollars, at six shillings each, or in the several species of coined silver and gold, enumerated in an act made and passed in the 23d year of his late majesty, king George the Second, intituled "An act for ascertaining the rates at which coined silver and gold, English half-pence and farthings, may pass within this government:" and according to the rates therein mentioned, with interest, to be paid annually, at six per cent. Witness my hand

A. B.

C. D.

E. F.

And whereas inconveniencies may arise, by the receiver-general's issuing notes for small sums, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the receiver-general be, and he hereby is directed, not to issue any notes for a less sum than four pounds lawful money.

A true extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary, P. T.*

To the hon. Benjamin Franklin, esq. at London.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, *April 26, 1775.*

"SIR,

"From the entire confidence we repose in your faithfulness and abilities, we consider it the happiness of this colony, that the important trust of agency for it, in this day of unequalled distress, is devolved on your hands, and we doubt not your attachment to the cause and liberties of mankind, will make every possible exertion in our behalf, a pleasure to you; although our circumstances will compel us often to interrupt your repose, by matters that will surely give you pain. A singular instance hereof is the occasion of the present letter. The contents of this packet, will be our apology for troubling you with it.

"From these you will see how, and by whom, we are at last plunged into the horrors of a most unnatural war.

"Our enemies, we are told, have despatched to Great-Britain a fallacious account of the tragedy they have begun; to prevent the operation of which, to the public injury, we have engaged the vessel that conveys this to you, as a packet in the service of this colony, and we request your assistance in supplying captain Derby, who commands her, with such necessaries as he shall want, on the credit of your constituents in Massachusetts-Bay.

"But we most ardently wish, that the several papers herewith inclosed, may be immediately printed and dispersed through every town in England, and especially communicated to the lord mayor, aldermen, and council of the city of London, that they may take such order thereon, as they may think proper. And we are confident your fidelity will make such improvement of them, as shall convince all, who are not determined to be in everlasting blindness, that it is the united efforts of both Englands, that can save either. But that whatever price our brethren in the one, may be pleased to put on their constitutional liberties, we are authorized to assure you, that the inhabitants of the other, with the greatest unanimity, are inflexibly resolved to sell theirs only at the price of their lives.

Signed by order of the Provincial Congress,

JOSEPH WARREN, *President, P. T.*

A true copy from the original minutes,

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary, P. T.*

The depositions relative to the commencement of hostilities, are as follows:

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

"We, Solomon Brown, Jonathan Loring, and Elijah Sanderson, all of lawful age, and of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New England, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the 18th of April, instant, being on the road between Concord and Lexington, and all of us mounted on horses, we were, about ten of the clock, suddenly surprised by nine persons, whom we took to be regular officers, who rode up to us, mounted and armed, each having a pistol in his hand, and after putting pistols to our breasts, and seizing the bridles of our horses, they swore, if we stirred another step, we should be all dead men, upon which we surrendered ourselves. They detained us until two o'clock the next morning, in which time they searched and greatly abused us, having first enquired about the magazine at Concord, whether any guards were posted there, and whether the bridges were up, and said four or five regiments of regulars would be in possession of the stores soon. They then brought us back to Lexington, cut the horses' bridles and girths, turned them loose, and then left us.

"SOLOMON BROWN,

"JONATHAN LORING,

"ELIJAH SANDERSON."

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

"I, Elijah Sanderson, above named, do further testify and declare, that I was on Lexington common, the morning of the 19th of April, aforesaid, having been dismissed by the officers abovementioned, and saw a large body of regular troops advancing towards Lexington company, many of whom were then dispersing. I heard one of the regulars, whom I took to be an officer, say, "Damn them, we will have them," and immediately the regulars shouted aloud, run and fired upon the Lexington company, which did not fire a gun before the regulars discharged on them. Eight of the Lexington company were killed while they were dispersing, and at a considerable distance from each other, and many wounded, and although a spectator, I narrowly escaped with my life.

"ELIJAH SANDERSON."

LEXINGTON, *April 23, 1775.*

"I, Thomas Rice Willard, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that being in the house of Daniel Harrington, of said Lexington, on the 19th instant, in the morning, about half an hour before sun-rise, looked out at the window of said house, and saw (as I suppose) about four hundred regulars in one body, coming up the road, and marched towards the north part of the common, back of the meeting-house of said Lexington, and as soon as said regulars were

against the east end of the meeting-house, the commanding officer said something, what I know not, but upon that the regulars ran till they came within about eight or nine rods of about an hundred of the militia of Lexington, who were collected on said common, at which time the militia of Lexington dispersed, then the officers made an huzza, and the private soldiers succeeded them: directly after this, an officer rode before the regulars to the other side of the body, and hallooed after the militia of said Lexington, and said, "lay down your arms, damn you, why don't you lay down your arms?" and that there was not a gun fired till the militia of Lexington were dispersed; and further saith not.

**"THOMAS RICE WILLARD."**

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

"Simon Winship, of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and province of Massachusetts-Bay, New England, being of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that on the 19th April instant, about four o'clock in the morning, as he was passing the public road in said Lexington, peaceably and unarmed, about two miles and a half distant from the meeting-house in said Lexington, he was met by a body of the king's regular troops, and being stopped by some officers of said troops, was commanded to dismount; upon asking why he must dismount, he was obliged by force to quit his horse, and ordered to march in the midst of the body, and being examined whether he had been warning the minute men, he answered no, but had been out, and was then returning to his father's. Said Winship farther testifies, that he marched with said troops, till he came within about half-a-quarter of a mile of said meeting-house, where an officer commanded the troops to halt, and then to prime and load: this being done, the said troops marched on till they came within a few rods of captain Parker's company, who were partly collected on the place of parade, when said Winship observed an officer at the head of said troops, flourishing his sword, and with a loud voice, giving the word fire, fire, which was instantly followed by a discharge of arms from said regular troops, and said Winship is positive, and in the most solemn manner declares, that there was no discharge of arms on either side, till the word fire was given, by the said officer as above.

**"SIMON WINSHIP."**

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

"I, John Parker, of lawful age, and commander of the militia in Lexington, do testify and declare, that on the 19th instant, in the morning, about one of the clock, being informed that there were a number of regular officers riding up and down the road, stopping and insulting people as they passed the road; and also was informed that a number of regular troops were on their march from Boston, in order to take the province stores at Concord, ordered our militia to meet on the common in said Lexington, to consult what to do, and concluded not to be discovered, nor meddle nor make with said regular troops (if they should approach) unless they should insult or molest us;—and, upon their sudden approach, I immediately ordered our militia to disperse, and not to fire.—Immediately said troops made their appearance and rushed furiously, fired upon, and killed eight of our party, without receiving any provocation therefor from us.

**"JOHN PARKER."**

LEXINGTON, *April 24, 1775.*

"I, John Robins, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the 19th instant, the company under the command of captain John Parker, being drawn up (sometime before sun-rise) on the green or common, and I being in the front rank, there suddenly appeared a number of the king's troops, about a thousand, as I thought, at the distance of about sixty or seventy yards from

us huzzaing, and on a quick pace towards us, with three officers in their front on horse-back, and on full gallop towards us, the foremost of which cried, throw down you arms ye villains, ye rebels! upon which said company dispersing, the foremost of the three officers ordered their men, saying, fire, by God, fire! at which moment we received a very heavy and close fire from them, at which instant, being wounded, I fell, and several of our men were shot dead by me. Captain Parker's men I believe had not then fired a gun, and further the deponent saith not.

**"JOHN ROBINS."**

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

We, Benjamin Tidd, of Lexington, and Joseph Abbot, of Lincoln, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, of lawful age, do testify and declare that, on the morning of the 19th of April instant, about five o'clock, being on Lexington common, and mounted on horses, we saw a body of regular troops marching up to the Lexington company, which was then dispersing: Soon after, the regulars fired, first, a few guns, which we took to be pistols from some of the regulars who were mounted on horses, and then the said regulars fired a volley or two before any guns were fired by the Lexington company; our horses immediately started, and we rode off. And further say not.

**"BENJAMIN TIDD,  
"JOSEPH ABBOT:"**

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

"We, Nathaniel Mullokin, Philip Russell, Moses Harrington, jun. Thomas and Daniel Harrington, William Grimes, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, jun. James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chandler, Joshua Reed, jun. Joseph Simonds, Phineas Smith, John Chandler, jun. Reuben Cock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington the 3d, Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington, Enoch Willington, John Horner, Isaac Green, Phineas Stearns, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Headley, jun. all of lawful age, and inhabitants of Lexington in the county of Middlesex, and colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the 19th of April instant, about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the regulars had, the evening before, been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants passing the same; and also understanding that a body of regulars were marching from Boston towards Concord, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores, belonging to the colony, in that town, we were alarmed, and having met at the place of our company's parade, were dismissed by our captain, John Parker, for the present, with orders to be ready to attend at the beat of the drum. We further testify and declare, that about five o'clock in the morning, hearing our drum beat, we proceeded towards the parade, and soon found that a large body of troops were marching towards us: Some of our company were coming up to the parade, and others had reached it, at which time the company began to disperse: Whilst our backs were turned on the troops, we were fired on by them, and a number of our men were instantly killed and wounded. Not a gun was fired, by any person in our company, on the regulars, to our knowledge, before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had all made our escape.

"Signed by each of the above deponents."

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1776.*

"We, Nathaniel Parkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, jun. John Winship, Solomon Pierce, John Muzzy, Abner Meeds, John Bridge, jun. Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe the 3d, Micah Hager, Samuel Saunderson, Samuel

Hastings, and James Brown, of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and all of lawful age, do testify and say, that, on the morning of the nineteenth of April instant, about one or two o'clock, being informed, that a number of regular officers had been riding up and down the road the evening and night preceding, and that some of the inhabitants, as they were passing, had been insulted by the officers, and stopped by them; and being also informed, that the regular troops were on their march from Boston, in order (as it was said) to take the colony stores, then deposited at Concord, we met on the parade of our company in this town; after the company had collected, we were ordered, by captain Parker, (who commanded us) to disperse for the present, and to be ready to attend the beat of the drum, and accordingly the company went into houses near the place of parade. We further testify and say, that, about five o'clock in the morning, we attended the beat of our drum, and were formed on the parade; we were faced towards the regulars then marching up to us, and some of our company were coming to the parade with their backs towards the troops, and others on the parade, began to disperse when the regulars fired on the company, before a gun was fired by any of our company on them. They killed eight of our company, and wounded several, and continued their fire, until we had all made our escape.

“Signed by each of the deponents.”

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

“I, Timothy Smith, of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that, on the morning of the nineteenth of April instant, being on Lexington common, as a spectator, I saw a large body of regular troops marching up towards the Lexington company, then dispersing, and likewise saw the regular troops fire on the Lexington company, before the latter fired a gun; I immediately ran, and a volley was discharged at me, which put me in imminent danger of losing my life; I soon returned to the common, and saw eight of the Lexington men who were killed, and lay bleeding at a considerable distance from each other; and several were wounded: And further faith not.

“TIMOTHY SMITH.”

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

“We, Levi Mead and Levi Harrington, both of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April, being on Lexington commons, as spectators, we saw a large body of regular troops marching up towards the Lexington company, and some of the regulars, on horses, whom we took to be officers, fired a pistol or two on the Lexington company, which was then dispersing: These were the first guns that were fired, and they were immediately followed by several volleys from the regulars, by which eight men, belonging to said company, were killed, and several wounded.

“LEVI HARRINGTON,  
“LEVI MEAD.”

LEXINGTON, *April 25, 1775.*

“I, William Draper, of lawful age, and an inhabitant of Colrain, in the county of Hampshire, and colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that, being on the parade of said Lexington, April 19th instant, about half an hour before sunrise, the king's regular troops appeared at the meeting-house of Lexington. Captain Parker's company, who were drawn up back of said meeting-house on the parade, turned from said troops, making their escape, by dispersing; in the mean time, the regular troops made an huzza, and ran towards captain Parker's company, who were dispersing, and,

immediately after the huzza was made, the commanding officer of said troops (as I took him) gave the command to the said troops, fire! "fire! damn you, fire!" and immediately, they fired before any of captain Parker's company fired, I then being within three or four rods of said regular troops: And further say not.

**" WILLIAM DRAPER."**

LEXINGTON, *April 23, 1775.*

"I, Thomas Fessenden, of lawful age, testify and declare, that, being in a pasture near the meeting-house, at said Lexington, on Wednesday last, at about half an hour before sunrise, I saw a number of regular troops pass speedily by said meeting-house, on their way towards a company of militia of said Lexington, who were assembled to the number of about one hundred in a company, at the distance of eighteen or twenty rods from said meeting-house; and after they had passed by said meeting-house, I saw three officers, on horseback, advance to the front of said regulars, when one of them, being within six rods of the said militia, cried out, "disperse, you rebels, immediately," on which he brandished his sword over his head three times; meanwhile the second officer, who was about two rods behind him, fired a pistol, pointed at said militia, and the regulars kept huzzaing till he had finished brandishing his sword, and when he had thus finished brandishing his sword, he pointed it down towards said militia, and immediately on which the said regulars fired a volley at the militia, and then I ran off as fast as I could, while they continued firing, till I got out of their reach. I further testify, that as soon as ever the officer cried "disperse, you rebels," the said company of militia dispersed every way, as fast as they could, and, while they were dispersing, the regulars kept firing at them incessantly: And further saith not.

**" THOMAS FESSENDEN."**

LINCOLN, *April 23, 1775.*

"I, John Bateman, belonging to the fifty-second regiment, commanded by colonel Jones, on Wednesday morning, on the 19th day of April instant, was in the party marching to Concord, being at Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, being nigh the meeting-house in said Lexington, there was a small party of men gathered together in that place, when our said troops marched by, and I testify and declare, that I heard the word of command given to the troops to fire, and some of said troops did fire, and I saw one of said small party lay dead on the ground nigh said meeting-house; and I testify, that I never heard any of the inhabitants so much as fire one gun on said troops.

**" JOHN BATEMAN."**

LEXINGTON, *April 23, 1775.*

"We, John Hoar, John Whithead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Parks, William Hosmer, John Adams, Gregory Stone, all of Lincoln, in the county of Middlesex, Massachusetts-Bay, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that, on Wednesday last, we were assembled at Concord, in the morning of said day, in consequence of information received, that a brigade of regular troops were on their march to the said town of Concord, who had killed six men at the town of Lexington; about an hour afterwards we saw them approaching, to the number, as we apprehended, of about twelve hundred, on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the said troops then took possession of the hill, where we were first posted; presently after this, we saw the troops moving towards the north bridge, about one mile from the said Concord meeting-house; we then immediately went before them and passed the bridge just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred, arrived; they there left about one half of their two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded, with the rest, towards col. Barrett's, about two miles from the said bridge; we

then seeing several fires in the town, thought the houses in Concord were in danger, and marched towards the said bridge; and the troops that were stationed there, observing our approach, marched back over the bridge and then took up some of the planks; we then hastened our march towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge, they fired on our men, first three guns, one after the other, and then a considerable number more; and then, and not before (having orders from our commanding officers not to fire till we were fired upon) we fired upon the regulars and they retreated. On their retreat through the town of Lexington to Charlestown, they ravaged and destroyed private property, and burnt three houses, one barn and one shop.

“Signed by each of the above deponents.”

LEXINGTON, April 23, 1775.

“We, Nathan Barrot, captain; Jonathan Farrar, Joseph Butler, and Francis Wheeler, lieutenants; John Barret, ensign; John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, jun. Samuel Barret, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Pierce, and Edward Richardson, all of Concord, in the county of Middlesex, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, of lawful age, testify and declare, that on Wednesday, the nineteenth instant, about an hour after sun-rise, we assembled on a hill near the meeting-house, in Concord aforesaid, in consequence of an information, that a number of regular troops had killed six of our countrymen, at Lexington, and were on their march to said Concord; and about an hour afterwards, we saw them approaching, to the number, as we imagine, of about twelve hundred; on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the aforesaid troops then took possession of a hill where we were first posted. Presently after this, we saw them moving towards the north bridge, about one mile from the said meeting-house; we then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred, arrived. They there left about one half of these two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards colonel Barrett’s, about two miles from the said bridge. We then seeing several fires in the town, thought our houses were in danger, and immediately marched back towards said bridge, and the troops who were stationed there, observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the planks. We then hastened our steps towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge, they fired on our men, first three guns, one after the other, and then a considerable number more; upon which, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon) we fired upon the regulars, and they retreated. At Concord, and on their retreat through Lexington, they plundered many houses, burnt three at Lexington, together with a shop and barn, and committed damage, more or less, to almost every house from Concord to Charlestown.

“Signed by the above deponents.”

“We, Joseph Butler, and Ephraim Melvin, do testify and declare, that when the regular troops fired upon our people, at the north bridge, in Concord, as related in the foregoing depositions, they shot one, and we believe two, of our people before we fired a single gun at them.

“JOSEPH BUTLER,  
“EPHRAIM MELVIN.”

*Lexington, April 23, 1775.*

CONCORD, April 23, 1775.

“I, Timothy Minot, jun. of Concord, on the nineteenth day of this instant, April, after that I had heard of the regular troops firing upon Lexington men, and fearing that hostilities might be committed at Concord, thought it my incumbent duty to secure my family.—After I had secured my family, some time after that, returning towards my own dwelling, and finding that the bridge

on the north part of said Concord, was guarded by regular troops, being a spectator of what had happened at said bridge, declare, that the regular troops stationed on said bridge, after they saw the men that were collected on the westerly side of said bridge, marched towards said bridge, then the troops returned towards the easterly side of said bridge, and formed themselves, as I thought, for regular fight : after that they fired one gun, then two or three more, before the men that were stationed on the westerly part of said bridge fired on them.

**"TIMOTHY MINOT, JUN."**

LEXINGTON, *April 23, 1775.*

"I, James Barrett, of Concord, colonel of a regiment of militia, in the county of Middlesex, do testify and say, that, on Wednesday morning last, about day-break, I was informed of the approach of a number of the regular troops to the town of Concord, where were some magazines belonging to this province, when there was assembled some of the militia of this and the neighboring towns, I ordered them to march to the north bridge (so called) which they had passed and were taking up. I ordered said militia to march to said bridge and pass the same, but not to fire on the king's troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said troops fired upon our militia, and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, which was the first firing of guns in the town of Concord: my detachment then returned the fire, which killed and wounded several of the king's troops.

**"JAMES BARRETT."**

LEXINGTON, *April 23, 1775.*

"We, Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft, all of Concord; and James Adams, of Lexington, all in the county of Middlesex, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning last, near ten of the clock, we saw near one hundred of the regular troops, being in the town of Concord, at the north bridge in said town (so called) and having passed the same, they were taking up said bridge, when about three hundred of our militia were advancing toward said bridge, in order to pass said bridge, when, without saying any thing to us, they discharged a number of guns on us, which killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others; when we returned the fire on them, which killed two of them, and wounded several, which was the beginning of hostilities in the town of Concord.

**"BRADBURY ROBINSON,  
"SAMUEL SPRING,  
"THADDEUS BANCROFT,  
"JAMES ADAMS."**

WORCESTER, *April 26, 1775.*

"Hannah Bradish, of that part of Cambridge, called Menotomy, and daughter of Timothy Paine, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester, esq. of lawful age, testifies and says, that about five o'clock on Wednesday last, afternoon, being in her bed-chamber, with her infant child, about eight days old; she was surprised by the firing of the king's troops and our people, on their return from Concord. She being weak and unable to go out of her house, in order to secure herself and family, they all retired into the kitchen, in the back part of the house. She soon found the house surrounded with the king's troops; that upon observation made, at least seventy bullets were shot into the front part of the house; several bullets lodged in the kitchen where she was, and one passed through an easy chair she had just gone from. The door of the front part of the house was broken open; she did not see any soldiers in the house, but supposed, by the noise, they were in the front. After the troops had gone off, she missed the following things, which, she verily believes, were taken out of the house by the king's troops, viz: one rich brocade gown,

called a negligee, one lutestring gown, one white quilt, one pair of brocade shoes, three shifts, eight white aprons, three caps, one case of ivory knives and forks, and several other small articles.

“HANNAH BRADISH.”

Province of the }  
Massachusetts-Bay, } *Worcester, ss. April 26, 1775.*

“Mrs. Hannah Bradish, the above deponent, maketh oath before us, the subscribers, two of his majesty’s justices of the peace, for the county of Worcester, and of the quorum, that the above deposition, according to her best recollection, is the truth. Which deposition is taken in *perpetuam rei memoriam*.”

“THOMAS STEEL,  
“TIMOTHY PAINE.”

CONCORD, *April 23, 1775.*

“I, James Marr, of lawful age, testify and say, that in the evening of the eighteenth instant, I received orders from George Hutchinson, adjutant of the fourth regiment of the regular troops stationed at Boston, to prepare and march: to which orders I attended, and marched to Concord, where I was ordered by an officer with about one hundred men, to guard a certain bridge there; while attending that service, a number of people came along, in order, as I suppose, to cross said bridge, at which time a number of the regular troops first fired upon them.

“JAMES MARR.”

MEDFORD, *April 25, 1775.*

“I, Edward Thoroton Gould, of his majesty’s own regiment of foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth instant, under the orders of general Gage, I embarked with the light infantry and grenadiers of the line, commanded by colonel Smith, and landed on the marshes of Cambridge, from whence we proceeded to Lexington; on our arrival at that place, we saw a body of provincial troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men; on our approach, they dispersed, and soon after firing began, but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our troops rushed on shouting, and huzzaing, previous to the firing, which was continued by our troops, so long as any of the provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to Concord. On a hill near the entrance of the town, we saw another body of provincials assembled; the light infantry companies were ordered up the hill to disperse them; on our approach, they retreated towards Concord; the grenadiers continued the road under the hill towards the town. Six companies of light infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge, which the provincials retreated over; the company I commanded was one: three companies of the above detachment went forwards about two miles; in the mean time, the provincial troops returned, to the number of about three or four hundred: we drew up on the Concord side of the bridge, the provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged and gave the first fire; this was the first engagement after the one at Lexington; a continued firing from both parties lasted through the whole day; I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the provincials at Medford.

“EDWARD THOROTON GOULD, *Lieut.*  
King’s own Regiment.”

Province of  
Massachusetts-Bay, } *Middlesex county, April 25, 1775.*

“Lieu. Thoroton Gould, aforementioned, personally made oath to the truth of the foregoing declaration by him subscribed, before us,

“THAD. MASSON,  
“JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
“SIMON TUFTS,

*Justices of the peace, for the county aforesaid, quorum unus.”*

*Province of Massachusetts-Bay, Charlestown, ss.*

“I, Nathaniel Gorham, notary and tabellion public, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify, to all whom it doth or may concern, That Thadeus Masson, Josiah Johnson, and Simon Tufts, esqrs. are three of his majesty’s justices of the peace (*quorum unus*) for the county of Middlesex; and that full faith and credit is, and ought to be given to their transactions, as such, both in court and out. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, *Anno Domini*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

“NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Public.*” (L. S.)

(All the above depositions are sworn to before justices of the peace and duly attested by notaries public, in manner of the last one.)

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, *April 26, 1775.*

To the inhabitants of Great-Britain.

“FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS,

“Hostilities are at length commenced in this colony by the troops under the command of general Gage, and it being of the greatest importance, that an early, true, and authentic account of this inhuman proceeding should be known to you, the Congress of this colony have transmitted the same, and from want of a session of the hon. Continental Congress, think it proper to address you on the alarming occasion.

“By the clearest depositions, relative to this transaction, it will appear that, on the night preceding the nineteenth of April instant, a body of the king’s troops, under the command of colonel Smith, were secretly landed at Cambridge, with an apparent design to take or destroy the military and other stores, provided for the defence of this colony, and deposited at Concord—that some inhabitants of the colony, on the night aforesaid, whilst travelling peaceably on the road between Boston and Concord, were seized and greatly abused by armed men, who appeared to be officers of general Gage’s army:—that the town of Lexington by these means was alarmed, and a company of the inhabitants mustered on the occasion—that the regular troops, on their way to Concord, marched into the said town of Lexington, and the said company on their approach began to disperse—that notwithstanding this, the regulars rushed on with great violence, and first began hostilities, by firing on said Lexington company, whereby they killed eight and wounded several others—that the regulars continued their fire until those of said company, who were neither killed nor wounded, had made their escape—that colonel Smith, with the detachment, then marched to Concord, where a number of provincials were again fired on by the troops, two of them killed and several wounded, before the provincials fired on them, and that these hostile measures of the troops produced an engagement that lasted through the day, in which many of the provincials, and more of the regular troops were killed and wounded.

“To give a particular account of the ravages of the troops, as they retreated from Concord to Charlestown, would be very difficult, if not impracticable; let it suffice to say, that a great number of the houses on the road were plundered, and rendered unfit for use; several were burnt; women in child-bed

were driven, by the soldiery, naked into the streets; old men peaceably in their houses were shot dead; and such scenes exhibited as would disgrace the annals of the most uncivilized nations.

"These, brethren, are marks of ministerial vengeance against this colony, for refusing, with her sister colonies, a submission to slavery; but they have not yet detached us from our royal sovereign. We profess to be his loyal and dutiful subjects, and so hardly dealt with as we have been, are still ready, with our lives and fortunes, to defend his person, family, crown, and dignity. Nevertheless, to the persecution and tyranny of his cruel ministry we will not tamely submit—appealing to heaven for the justice of our cause, we determine to die or be free.

"We cannot think that the honor, wisdom, and valour of Britons will suffer them to be long inactive spectators of measures, in which they themselves are so deeply interested:—Measures pursued in opposition to the solemn protests of many noble lords, and expressed sense of conspicuous commoners, whose knowledge and virtue have long characterized them as some of the greatest men in the nation:—Measures executing contrary to the interest, petitions and resolves of many large, respectable and opulent counties, cities, and boroughs in Great-Britain:—Measures highly incompatible with justice, but still pursued with a specious pretence of easing the nation of its burthens:—Measures which, if successful, must end in the ruin and slavery of Britain, as well as the persecuted American colonies.

"We sincerely hope, that the great Sovereign of the Universe, who hath so often appeared for the English nation, will support you in every rational and manly exertion with these colonies, for saving it from ruin; and that in a constitutional connexion with the mother country, we shall soon be altogether a free and happy people.

"Per order,

JOSEPH WARREN, *President, P. T.*"

*Ordered*, That the secretary have the above depositions and the address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain published.

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That the Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America.

*Ordered*, That the letter from the provincial Congress of Massachusetts-Bay be referred to that committee.

Adjourned till to-morrow at ten o'clock, and from thence to Saturday.

SATURDAY, *May 13, 1775.*

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Congress being informed that doctor Lyman Hall attended at the door, as a delegate from the parish of St. John's, in the colony of Georgia, and desired to know whether, as such, he may be admitted to this Congress;

*Agreed unanimously*, That he be admitted as a delegate from the parish of St. John's, in the colony of Georgia, subject to such regulations as the Congress shall determine, relative to his voting.

Mr. Lyman Hall being accordingly admitted, produced his credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows:

"To the honorable gentlemen of the Congress, designed to be held at Philadelphia, on May A. D. 1775.

*"The address of the inhabitants of the parish of St. John's, in the province of Georgia.*

"GENTLEMEN,

"To give a particular detail of our many struggles in the cause of liberty, the many meetings thereby occasioned and held in this parish, the endeavours we have used to induce the rest of this province to concur with us, the attendance of our committee on the provincial conventions, held at Savannah, in this province, and particularly that of the 18th of January last, with their proceedings, and the reasons of our dissent from them, we think would be tedious to you, and therefore send a summary abstract, which, with the account, that

may be given by Lyman Hall, esq. appointed a delegate to represent and act for this parish in the general Continental Congress, to be held in May next, and the testimonies of the honorable delegates from South-Carolina, we hope will be satisfactory.

"Immediately upon our being honored with an answer to the representation of our case transmitted to the honorable Congress, which sat at Philadelphia last year, with a copy of the association there entered into, we had a meeting, and our proceedings then and since that time, will, in brief, appear from the following abstracts of an address from this parish to the committee of correspondence in Charleston, South-Carolina, which is as follows :

"GENTLEMEN,

"Herewith will be communicated to you, the several steps taken by this parish in their endeavours to conform, as near as possible, to the resolutions entered into by the other colonies : and the particular measures now adopted, for carrying into execution the continental association, which we embraced the earliest opportunity of acceding to, by subscribing it ; on condition that trade and commerce with the other colonies be continued to us the subscribers ; and thereupon should have immediately sent to you for your approbation and indulgence, but were delayed by a summons to attend a provincial Congress in Savannah, on the 18th of January last, for the purpose, as we understood, of a general association with the other colonies, and chusing delegates : at which time and place we attended, and acquainted the other parishes, assembled on that occasion, that we had already acceded to the general association, on condition as abovementioned, and earnestly requested them to do the same. Had they acceded fully to the general association, we should have had no occasion to trouble you with this address ; but, as they did not, we now apply to you, to admit us, the subscribers, to an alliance with you, requesting that you will allow trade and commerce to be continued to us, the same to be conducted under such regulations and restrictions, as shall be consistent with the continental association, and which, on our part, we engage, with all possible care, to keep inviolate. As we of this parish are a body detached from the rest (i. e. of this province) by our resolutions, and sufficiently distinct by local situation, large enough for particular notice, adjoining a particular port, and in that respect, capable of conforming to the general association, if connected with you, with the same fidelity as a distant parish of your own province ; we must be considered, as comprehended within the spirit and equitable meaning of the continental association, and hope you will not condemn the innocent with the guilty, especially when a due separation is made between them.

"Give us leave to add only, that we wait your answer, shall be glad of your advice, and are with esteem,

"Gentlemen, yours, &c."

*St. John's, 9th February, 1775.*

To which we received the following answer :

"GENTLEMEN,

"Your letter, accompanying sundry papers, having been laid before a very full committee of this colony, and undergone the most mature deliberation, I am, by their desire, to acquaint you, that they have the highest sense of your arduous struggles in favour of the common cause of America ; and most sincerely lament your present unhappy situation ; but would recommend a continuance of your laudable exertions, and the laying a state of your case before the ensuing Continental Congress, as the only means of obtaining relief, and to put you in the situation you wish, which this committee apprehend to be entirely out of their power to do ; as it is their opinion, that the parish of St. John, being a part of the colony of Georgia (which, by not acceding to, has violated the continental association) falls under the 14th article of the said association, no part of which any committee can presume to do away, &c."

" Upon the receipt of this answer, it was seriously considered in what manner to conduct in the present situation ; and proposed, whether we should immediately break off all connexion and commerce with Savannah, and all other inhabitants of this province, who have not fully acceded to the continental association.

" It was considered, that as we were denied commerce with any other colony, and but one merchant among us considerable for dry goods, had signed our association, and he insufficient for a present supply, and we utterly unable at present to procure materials or manufactures for clothing among ourselves, we must, by such a resolution, become extremely miserable ; it was therefore concluded, that till we could obtain trade and commerce with some other colony, it is absolutely necessary to continue it in some respects with our own, and determined that it be carried on under the following regulations :

" 1. That none of us shall directly or indirectly purchase any slave imported at Savannah, (large numbers of which we understand are there expected,) till the sense of the Congress shall be made known to us.

" 2. That we will not trade at all with any merchant at Savannah, or elsewhere, that will not join in our associating agreement, otherwise than under the inspection of a committee, for that purpose appointed, and for such things only as they shall judge necessary, and when they shall think there are necessary reasons for so doing.

" A committee was then nominated, and appointed to sit weekly on Thursdays, for the purposes aforesaid.

" It was then resolved, that a delegate be sent from this parish to the Congress, to be held at Philadelphia, in May next, and that Tuesday, the 21st of March, be appointed for chusing one.

" On the said 21st of March, at a full meeting, Lyman Hall esq. was unanimously chosen, to represent and act for the inhabitants of this parish, as a delegate at the general Congress, to be held in Philadelphia, in May next, who are determined faithfully to adhere to, and abide by the determination of him, and the other honorable members of the same.

" Signed by order of the inhabitants, .

By DANIEL ROBERTS, and twenty others,  
members of the committee."

" *Midway, St. John's Parish,  
in the province of Georgia, April 13, A. D. 1775.*"

A petition from the county of Frederick, in Virginia, addressed to the Congress, was presented and read.

*Agreed*, That it be referred to the committee on Monday.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

MONDAY, May 15, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Besides those who met at the opening of the Congress, the following members attended ; from New York, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Morris, and Mr. R. R. Livingston ; from Pennsylvania, Mr. Wilson ; from Maryland, Mr. Stone, and Mr. Goldsborough.

Upon motion,

*Agreed*, That the secretary be allowed to employ Timothy Matlack, as a clerk, he having first taken an oath, or affirmation, to keep secret the transactions of the Congress, that may be entrusted to him, or may come to his knowledge.

The city and county of New-York, having, through the delegates of that province, applied to Congress for advice how to conduct themselves with regard to the troops expected there, the Congress took the matter into consider-

ation. During their deliberations, it became necessary to take the opinion of the Congress by colonies, upon which a question arose, whether the delegate from the parish of St. John's, in the colony of Georgia, could be admitted to vote. After some debate on this question, the delegate from that parish arose, and after observing, that the present distressful situation of American affairs had induced a necessity of this Congress, which was composed of delegates representing whole colonies; that as he did not represent a colony, but only a part, he did not insist on giving a vote as a colony, but was contented to hear and assist in the debates, and to give his vote in all cases, except when the sentiments of the Congress were taken by colonies.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the matter referred to them; during the debate, Samuel Ward, esq. one of the delegates from Rhode-Island, appeared and produced his credentials, which being read, were approved, and are as follows.

By the honorable the general assembly of the English colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, in New-England, in America.  
(L. S. )

To the honorable Stephen Hopkins, esq. and the honorable Samuel Ward, esq. Greeting :

Whereas the general assembly of the colony aforesaid, have nominated and appointed you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Samuel Ward, to represent the people of this colony, in a general Congress of representatives, from this and the other colonies, to be holden in the city of Philadelphia, and there, in behalf of this colony, to meet, and join with the commissioners, or delegates from the other colonies, in consulting upon proper measures to obtain a repeal of the several acts of the British parliament, for levying taxes upon his majesty's subjects in America, without their consent; and upon proper measures to establish the rights and liberties of the colonies, upon a just and solid foundation, agreeable to the instructions given you by the general assembly.

By virtue of an act of the general assembly, I, Henry Ward, esq. secretary of the said colony, have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said colony, this seventh day of May, A. D. 1775, and in the fifteenth year of the reign of his most sacred majesty George the third, by the grace of God, king of Great-Britain, &c.

Signed,

HENRY WARD.

The matter under consideration being resumed, the Congress

*Resolved*, That it be recommended, for the present, to the inhabitants of New-York, that if the troops, which are expected, should arrive, the said colony act on the defensive, so long as may be consistent with their safety and security; that the troops be permitted to remain in the barracks, so long as they behave peaceably and quietly, but that they be not suffered to erect fortifications, or take any steps for cutting off the communication between the town and country, and that if they commit hostilities or invade private property, the inhabitants should defend themselves and their property, and repel force by force; that the warlike stores be removed from the town; that places of retreat, in case of necessity, be provided for the women and children of New-York; and that a sufficient number of men be embodied, and kept in constant readiness for protecting the inhabitants from insult and injury.

Two memorials, one from Samuel Shoemaker, the other from James and Drinker, merchants of this city, respecting some cargoes purchased by them, and intended for Newfoundland, but which are stopped by the committee of this city, were laid before the Congress, and read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Washington, Mr. Lynch, Mr. S. Adams, and the delegates from New-York, be a committee, to consider what posts are necessary to be occupied in the colony of New-York, and that they be desired to report as speedily as possible.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, *May* 16, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A memorial from Robert and John Murray, of New-York, was laid before the Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America; after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Tilghman reported from the committee, that they had taken the matter referred to them into consideration, but not having come to any resolution, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, *May* 17, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and the order of the day being postponed till to-morrow :

Upon motion,

*Resolved unanimously*, That all exportations to Quebec, Nova-Scotia, the island of St. John's, Newfoundland, Georgia, except the parish of St. John's, and to East and West Florida, immediately cease, and that no provision of any kind, or other necessaries be furnished to the British fisheries on the American coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress.

*Ordered*, That this be published immediately.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

### THURSDAY, *May* 18, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The honorable Stephen Hopkins, esq. from Rhode-Island, and Patrick Henry, esq. from Virginia, attended and took their seats in Congress.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the rules of conduct, to be observed in debating and determining questions, laid down by the last Congress, be adopted and observed by the present Congress.

The president laid before the Congress, some important intelligence he received last night, by express, relative to the surprising and taking of Ticonderoga, by a detachment from Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, which was read.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. Brown, who brought the express, be called in : After he withdrew, the Congress, taking into consideration the letters and intelligence communicated to them,

*Resolved*, Whereas there is indubitable evidence, that a design is formed by the British ministry, of making a cruel invasion from the province of Quebec, upon these colonies, for the purpose of destroying our lives and liberties, and some steps have actually been taken to carry the said design into execution ; and, whereas, several inhabitants of the northern colonies, residing in the vicinity of Ticonderoga, and immediately exposed to incursions, impelled by a just regard for the defence and preservation of themselves and their countrymen from such imminent dangers and calamities, have taken possession of that post, in which was lodged a quantity of cannon and military stores, that would certainly have been used in the intended invasion of these colonies ; this Con-

gress earnestly recommend it to the committees of the cities and counties of New-York and Albany, immediately to cause the said cannon and stores to be removed from Ticonderoga to the south end of lake George ; and, if necessary, to apply to the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, and Connecticut, for such an additional body of forces as will be sufficient to establish a strong post at that place, and effectually to secure said cannon and stores, or so many of them as it may be judged proper to keep there. And that an exact inventory be taken of all such cannon and stores, in order that they may be safely returned, when the restoration of the former harmony between Great-Britain and these colonies, so ardently wished for by the latter, shall render it prudent, and consistent with the over-ruling law of self-preservation.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

**FRIDAY, May 19, 1775.**

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to consider what posts are necessary to be occupied in the colony of New-York, and by what number of troops it will be proper they should be guarded, brought in their report, which, being read, was referred to the committee of the whole.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved themselves into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America, and continued to do so, from day to day, till Wednesday the 24th, on which day the honorable Peyton Randolph, president, being under a necessity of returning home, and having set out this morning early, the chair was vacant, whereupon,

On motion, the honorable John Hancock, esq. was unanimously chosen president.

The Congress then resolved themselves into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America, and repeated the same on the day following.

**FRIDAY, May 26, 1775.**

The Congress being met according to adjournment, one of the delegates from New-Jersey laid before them a minute from the journals of the assembly of that colony, together with a resolution of the commons of Great-Britain, which were read as follows :

“ NEW JERSEY, HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, May 20, 1775.

“ His excellency having laid before the house, a copy of the resolution of the honorable house of commons of Great-Britain, of the 20th of February, 1775, containing a plan formed for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between our parent state and the colonies ; which plan, under the present circumstances, this house could not comply with and adopt, and yet this house being desirous of making use of all proper means to effect a reconciliation, do recommend it to their delegates to lay the same plan before the Continental Congress, for their consideration.

“ A true copy from the journals,

“ RICHARD SMITH, *Clerk of Assembly.*”

*Copy of a resolution of the house of commons, February 20, 1775.*

“ *Resolved*, That when the governor, council and assembly, or general court, of any of his majesty's provinces, or colonies, in America, shall propose to make provision according to the condition, circumstances, and situations of such province or colony, for contributing their proportion for the common defence, (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the general court,

or general assembly of such province or colony, and disposable by parliament,) and shall engage to make provision also for the support of the civil government, and the administration of justice, in such province or colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by his majesty, and the two houses of parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear, in respect of such province or colony, to levy any duty, tax or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy, or to impose, for the regulation of commerce, the neat produce of the duties, last mentioned, to be carried to the account of such province, or colony, respectively."

*Ordered*, That the above be referred to the committee for taking into consideration the state of America.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America; after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported from the committee, that they had come to some resolutions which he was desired to report, but not having finished the business, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The report from the committee being read, the Congress came into the following resolutions:

*Resolved unanimously*, That his majesty's most faithful subjects, in these colonies, are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the British ministry to carry into execution, by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the British parliament for laying taxes in America; to enforce the collection of those taxes, and for altering and changing the constitution and internal police of some of these colonies, in violation of the natural and civil rights of the colonists.

Hostilities being actually commenced in the Massachusetts-Bay, by the British troops, under the command of general Gage, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that colony destroyed, the town of Boston having not only been long occupied as a garrisoned town in an enemy's country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified even towards declared enemies; large reinforcements too being ordered and soon expected, for the declared purpose of compelling these colonies to submit to the operation of the said acts; that therefore, for the express purpose of securing and defending these colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said acts into execution, by force of arms, these colonies be immediately put into a state of defence.

But, as we most ardently wish for a restoration of the harmony formerly subsisting between our mother country and these colonies, the interruption of which must, at all events, be exceedingly injurious to both countries, that with a sincere design of contributing by all the means in our power, not incompatible with a just regard for the undoubted rights and true interests of these colonies, to the promotion of this most desirable reconciliation, an humble and dutiful petition be presented to his majesty.

*Resolved*, That measures be entered into for opening a negotiation, in order to accommodate the unhappy disputes subsisting between Great-Britain and these colonies, and that this be made a part of the petition to the king.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the militia of New-York be armed and trained, and in constant readiness to act at a moment's warning; and that a number of men be immediately embodied and kept in that city, and so disposed of as to give protection to the inhabitants, in case any insult should be offered by the troops, that may land there, and prevent any attempts that may be made to gain possession of the city, and interrupt its intercourse with the country.

*Resolved unanimously*, That it be recommended to the provincial convention at New-York, to persevere the more vigorously in preparing for their defence, as it is very uncertain whether the earnest endeavours of the Congress,

to accommodate the unhappy differences between Great-Britain and the colonies, by conciliatory measures, will be successful.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. Jay, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Deane, be a committee to prepare and bring in a letter to the people of Canada.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the state of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

### SATURDAY, May 27, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The president laid before the Congress a letter from the convention of New-Jersey, which was read, and referred to the committee of the whole.

Information being given, that there is a gentleman in town who can give a full and just account of the state of affairs in Canada;

*Ordered*, That he be introduced, which was done.

The committee appointed to draught a letter to the inhabitants of Canada, brought in the letter, which was read, and after some debate, re-committed to the same committee.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. Washington, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Mifflin, Mr. Deane, Mr. Morris and Mr. S. Adams, be a committee, to consider on ways and means to supply these colonies with ammunition and military stores.

Upon motion, The memorial of Robert Murray and John Murray, "desiring to be restored to their former situation with respect to their commercial privileges," was taken into consideration, and after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That where any person hath been or shall be adjudged by a committee, to have violated the continental association, and such offender shall satisfy the convention of the colony, where the offence was or shall be committed, or the committee of the parish of St. John's, in the colony of Georgia, if the offence be committed there, of his contrition for his offence, and sincere resolution to conform to the association for the future, the said convention, or committee of the parish of St. John's aforesaid, may settle the terms upon which he may be restored to the favour and forgiveness of the public, and that the terms be published.

*Ordered*, That this be made public.

*Resolved*, That the order of the day be postponed till Monday.

Adjourned till Monday, at nine o'clock.

### MONDAY, May, 29, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The committee, to whom the letter to the inhabitants of Canada, was re-committed, brought in the same, which was read, and approved, and is as follows:

To the oppressed inhabitants of Canada.

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

Alarmed by the designs of an arbitrary ministry, to extirpate the rights and liberties of all America, a sense of common danger conspired with the dictates of humanity, in urging us to call your attention, by our late address, to this very important object.

Since the conclusion of the late war, we have been happy in considering you as fellow-subjects, and from the commencement of the present plan for subjugating the continent, we have viewed you as fellow-sufferers with us. As we were both entitled by the bounty of an indulgent Creator to freedom, and being both devoted by the cruel edicts of a despotic administration, to common ruin, we perceived the fate of the Protestant and Catholic colonies to be strongly

linked together, and therefore invited you to join with us in resolving to be free, and in rejecting, with disdain, the fetters of slavery, however artfully polished.

We most sincerely condole with you on the arrival of that day, in the course of which, the sun could not shine on a single freeman in all your extensive dominions. Be assured, that your unmerited degradation has engaged the most unfeigned pity of your sister colonies; and we flatter ourselves you will not, by tamely bearing the yoke, suffer that pity to be supplanted by contempt.

When hardy attempts are made to deprive men of rights, bestowed by the Almighty, when avenues are cut through the most solemn compacts for the admission of despotism, when the plighted faith of government ceases to give security to dutiful subjects, and when the insidious stratagems and manoeuvres of peace become more terrible than the sanguinary operations of war, it is high time for them to assert those rights, and, with honest indignation, oppose the torrent of oppression rushing in upon them.

By the introduction of your present form of government, or rather present form of tyranny, you and your wives and your children are made slaves. You have nothing that you can call your own, and all the fruits of your labor and industry may be taken from you, whenever an avaricious governor and a rapacious council may incline to demand them. You are liable by their edicts to be transported into foreign countries to fight battles in which you have no interest, and to spill your blood in conflicts from which neither honor nor emolument can be derived: Nay, the enjoyment of your very religion, on the present system, depends on a legislature in which you have no share, and over which you have no controul, and your priests are exposed to expulsion, banishment, and ruin, whenever their wealth and possessions furnish sufficient temptation. They cannot be sure that a virtuous prince will always fill the throne, and should a wicked or careless king concur with a wicked ministry in extracting the treasure and strength of your country, it is impossible to conceive to what variety and to what extremes of wretchedness you may, under the present establishment, be reduced.

We are informed you have already been called upon to waste your lives in a contest with us. Should you, by complying in this instance, assent to your new establishment, and a war break out with France, your wealth and your sons may be sent to perish in expeditions against their islands in the West-Indies.

It cannot be presumed that these considerations will have no weight with you, or that you are so lost to all sense of honor. We can never believe that the present race of Canadians are so degenerated as to possess neither the spirit, the gallantry, nor the courage of their ancestors. You certainly will not permit the infamy and disgrace of such pusillanimity to rest on your own heads, and the consequences of it on your children forever.

We, for our parts, are determined to live free, or not at all; and are resolved, that posterity shall never reproach us with having brought slaves into the world.

Permit us again to repeat that we are your friends, not your enemies, and be not imposed upon by those who may endeavor to create animosities. The taking of the fort and military stores at Ticonderoga and Crown-Point, and the armed vessels on the lake, was dictated by the great law of self-preservation. They were intended to annoy us, and to cut off that friendly intercourse and communication, which has hitherto subsisted between you and us. We hope it has given you no uneasiness, and you may rely on our assurances, that these colonies will pursue no measures whatever, but such as friendship and a regard for our mutual safety and interest may suggest.

As our concern for your welfare entitles us to your friendship, we presume you will not, by doing us injury, reduce us to the disagreeable necessity of treating you as enemies.

We yet entertain hopes of your uniting with us in the defence of our common liberty, and there is yet reason to believe, that should we join in imploring the attention of our sovereign, to the unmerited and unparalleled oppressions of his American subjects, he will at length be undeceived, and forbid a licentious ministry any longer to riot in the ruins of the rights of mankind.

*Ordered*, That the above letter be signed by the president.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Mifflin, be a committee to get the letter translated into the French language, and to have one thousand copies of it, so translated, printed, in order to be sent to Canada, and dispersed among the inhabitants there.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no provisions or necessaries of any kind be exported to the island of Nantucket, except from the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, the convention of which colony is desired to take measures for effectually providing the said island, upon their application to purchase the same, with as much provision, as shall be necessary for its internal use, and no more.

The Congress deeming it of great importance to North-America, that the British fishery should not be furnished with provisions from the continent through Nantucket, earnestly recommend a vigilant execution of this resolve to all committees.

*Ordered*, That the above resolve be immediately published.

As the present critical situation of the colonies renders it highly necessary that ways and means should be devised for the speedy and secure conveyance of intelligence from one end of the continent to the other,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Franklin, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lee, Mr. Willing, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. P. Livingston, be a committee to consider the best means of establishing post for conveying letters and intelligence through this continent.

*Resolved*, That the order of the day be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

## TUESDAY, *May 30*, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A member informed the Congress, that a gentleman, just arrived from London, had brought with him a paper, which he says he received from Lord North, and which was written, at the desire of his lordship, by Mr. Grey Cooper, under-secretary to the treasury, and as the gentleman understood it to be his lordship's desire that it should be communicated to the Congress, for that purpose he had put it into his hands. The member farther observed, that he had shewn the paper to a member near him, who was well acquainted with the hand writing of Mr. Cooper, and that he verily believes the paper was written by Mr. Cooper.

The paper being read, is as follows :

"That it is earnestly hoped by all the real friends of the Americans, that the terms expressed in the resolution of the 20th of February last, will be accepted by all the colonies, who have the least affection for their king and country, or a just sense of their own interest.

"That these terms are honorable for Great-Britain, and safe for the colonies.

"That if the colonies are not blinded by faction, these terms will remove every grievance relative to taxation, and be the basis of a compact between the colonies, and the mother country.

"That the people in America ought, on every consideration, to be satisfied with them.

"That no further relaxation can be admitted.

"The temper and spirit of the nation are so much against concessions, that if it were the intention of administration, they could not carry the question.

"But administration have no such intention, as they are fully and firmly persuaded, that further concessions would be injurious to the colonies as well as to Great-Britain.

"That there is not the least probability of a change of administration.

"That they are perfectly united in opinion, and determined to pursue the most effectual measures, and to use the whole force of the kingdom, if it be found necessary, to reduce the rebellious and refractory provinces and colonies.

"There is so great a spirit in the nation against the Congress, that the people will bear the temporary distresses of a stoppage of the American trade.

"They may depend on this to be true."

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America, and continued so to do the day following, when after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported from the committee, that they had proceeded in the business, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America.

A letter from Col. Arnold, dated Crown-Point, May 23, 1775, was laid before the Congress, informing that he had certain intelligence, that "on the 19th there were then four hundred regulars at St. John's, making all possible preparation to cross the lake, and expected to be joined by a number of Indians, with a design of re-taking Crown-point and Ticonderoga," and earnestly calling for a reinforcement and supplies. This letter being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the governor of Connecticut be requested immediately to send a strong reinforcement to the garrisons of Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, and that so many of the cannon and other stores be retained, as may be necessary for the immediate defence of those posts, until further order from this Congress, and that the provincial convention of New-York be informed of this resolve, and desired to furnish those troops with provisions and other necessary stores, and to take effectual care that a sufficient number of batteaus be immediately provided for the lakes.

*Ordered*, That the above resolve be immediately transmitted in a letter by the president, to governor Trumbull, and the convention at New-York.

*Ordered*, That the president in his letter acquaint governor Trumbull, that it is the desire of Congress, that he should appoint a person, in whom he can confide, to command the forces at Crown-Point and Ticonderoga.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 1, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to consider ways and means to supply these colonies with ammunition and military stores, brought in their report, which was read, and referred to the committee of the whole.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the government of Connecticut, or the general of the forces of that colony, to appoint commissaries to receive at Albany and forward the supplies of provisions, for the forces on lake Champlain, from the provincial convention of New-York, and that the said convention use their utmost endeavors in facilitating and aiding the transportation thereof, from thence to where the said commissaries may direct.

As this Congress has nothing more in view than the defence of these colonies,

*Resolved*, That no expedition or incursion ought to be undertaken or made, by any colony, or body of colonists, against or into Canada; and that this

resolve be immediately transmitted to the commander of the forces at Ticonderoga.

*Ordered*, That the above resolve be translated into the French language, and transmitted, with the letter, to the inhabitants of Canada.

*Ordered*, That the president transmit a copy of the above to New-York, and the other colonies bordering on Canada.

A petition from the committee representing the people in that part of Augusta county, in the colony of Virginia, on the west side of the Allegheny mountain, was laid before the Congress and read, intimating "fears of a rupture with the Indians on account of lord Dunmore's conduct," and desiring "commissioners from the colony of Virginia, and province of Pennsylvania, to attend a meeting of the Indians at Pittsburgh, on behalf of these colonies."

*Ordered*, That the above be referred to the delegates of the colonies of Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The Congress then, agreeable to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported from the committee, that they had taken the matters referred to them, into consideration, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, June 2, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The president laid before the Congress a letter from the provincial convention of Massachusetts-Bay, dated May 16, which was read, setting forth the difficulties they labour under for want of a regular form of government, and as they and the other colonies are now compelled to raise an army to defend themselves from the butcheries and devastations of their implacable enemies, which renders it still more necessary to have a regular established government, requesting the Congress to favour them with "explicit advice respecting the taking up and exercising the powers of civil government," and declaring their readiness to "submit to such a general plan as the Congress may direct for the colonies, or make it their great study to establish such a form of government there, as shall not only promote their advantage, but the union and interest of all America."

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for farther consideration.

Doctor Benjamin Church being directed by the convention of Massachusetts-Bay, to confer with the Congress respecting such matters, as may be necessary to the defence of that colony, and particularly the state of the army therein;

*Ordered*, That he be introduced.

After he withdrew, an express arriving with despaches from Massachusetts-Bay, the President laid before the Congress letters from the conventions of that colony, and New-Hampshire, also from governor Trumbull, which were read.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, that no bill of exchange, draught, or order of any officer in the army or navy, their agents or contractors, be received, or negotiated, or any money supplied to them by any person in America;

That no provisions or necessaries of any kind be furnished or supplied to, or for the use of, the British army or navy, in the colony of Massachusetts-Bay;

That no vessel employed in transporting British troops to America, or from one part of North America to another, or warlike stores or provisions for said troops, be freighted or furnished with provisions or any necessaries, until further orders from this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above resolves be immediately published.

The order of the day being postponed, the Congress adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, *June 3, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from the convention of New-York, together with sundry letters and papers enclosed, from Albany, were laid before the Congress and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The letter from the convention of Massachusetts, dated the 16th May, being again read,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five persons be chosen to consider the same, and report what in their opinion is the proper advice to be given to that convention.

The following persons were chosen by ballot, to compose that committee, viz. Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Lee.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to draught a petition to the king.

That another committee of three be appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain.

That another committee of four be appointed to prepare an address to the people of Ireland.

That another committee of three be appointed to bring in the draught of a letter to the inhabitants of Jamaica.

That another committee of five be appointed to bring in an estimate of the money necessary to be raised.

The Congress then proceeded to chuse, by ballot, the several committees, when Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Johnson, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Franklin, were elected to compose the first; Mr. Lee, Mr. R. R. Livingston, and Mr. Pendleton, for the second; Mr. Duane, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. J. Adams, for the third; Mr. Hooper, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Lynch, for the fourth; and Mr. Washington, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Deane, Mr. Cushing, and Mr. Hewes, for the fifth.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

On Monday and Tuesday the Congress met and adjourned, to give the committees time to bring in their report,

WEDNESDAY, *June 7, 1775.*

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to make an estimate of the money necessary to be raised, brought in their report, which was read and referred to the committee of the whole.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Thursday the 20th of July next, be observed throughout the twelve United Colonies, as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer: and that Mr. Hooper, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Paine, be a committee to bring in a resolve for that purpose.

The committee appointed to prepare advice in answer to the letter from the convention of Massachusetts-Bay, brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved themselves into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America; after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair; and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had proceeded in the business referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve themselves into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of America; and that this be a standing order till the business is completed.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY, June 8, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress being informed, that a major Skene, with some other officers, who arrived last evening, in a vessel from London, were, with their papers, in the custody of the troops of this city; that the said Skene had lately been appointed governor of the forts of Ticonderoga, and Crown-Point; that one of the officers with him, is a lieutenant in the regulars, now in the province of Quebec; and moreover, that the said Skene had declared, that he has authority to raise a regiment in America; from all this, apprehending that the said Skene is a dangerous partizan of administration, and that his papers may contain intelligence of ministerial designs against America, very important to be known.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine the papers of the said Skene and lieutenant, in their presence.

That the committee consist of Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Mifflin:

That the said committee be upon honor to conceal whatever, of a private nature, may come to their knowledge by such examination; and that they communicate, to this Congress, what they shall discover relative to the present dispute, between Great-Britain and America.

The remainder of the day being spent in a committee of the whole, on the state of America, the Congress adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

FRIDAY June 9, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The report of the committee, on the letter from the convention of Massachusetts-Bay, being again read, the Congress came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That no obedience being due to the act of parliament for altering the charter of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, not to a governor, or a lieutenant-governor, who will nor observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that charter, the governor and lieutenant-governor of that colony are to be considered as absent, and their offices vacant; and as there is no council there, and the inconveniencies, arising from the suspension of the powers of government, are intolerable, especially at a time when general Gage hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities, against his majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that colony; that, in order to conform, as near as may be, to the spirit and substance of the charter, it be recommended to the provincial convention, to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places, which are entitled to representation in assembly, requesting them to chuse such representatives, and that the assembly, when chosen, do elect councillors; and that such assembly, or council, exercise the powers of government, until a governor, of his majesty's appointment, will consent to govern the colony according to its charter.

*Ordered*, that the president transmit a copy of the above to the convention of Massachusetts-Bay.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 10, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Sundry letters, from Massachusetts-Bay, Ticonderoga, Crown-Point, &c. being laid before the Congress, were read; and the same being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several towns and districts in the colonies of Massachusetts-Bay, New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, and the eastern division of New-Jersey, to collect all the salt-petre and brimstone in their several towns and districts, and transmit the same, with all possible despatch, to the provincial convention at New-York.

That it be recommended to the provincial convention of the colony of New-York, to have the powder-mills, in that colony, put into such a condition as immediately to manufacture, into gun-powder, for the use of the continent, whatever materials may be procured in the manner above directed.

That it be recommended to the committees of the western division of New-Jersey, the colonies of Pennsylvania, lower counties on Delaware and Maryland, that they, without delay, collect the salt-petre and sulphur in their respective colonies, and transmit the same for the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia; to the end, that these articles may be immediately manufactured into gun-powder, for the use of the continent.

That it be recommended to the conventions and committees of the colonies of Virginia, North-Carolina and South-Carolina, that they, without delay, collect the salt-petre and sulphur in their respective colonies, and procure these articles to be manufactured, as soon as possible, into gun-powder, for the use of the continent.

That it be recommended to the several inhabitants of the United Colonies, who are possessed of salt-petre and sulphur, for their own use, to dispose them for the purpose of manufacturing gun-powder.

That the salt-petre and sulphur, collected in consequence of the above resolves of Congress, be paid for out of the continental fund.

That Mr. Paine, Mr. Lee, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Schuyler and Mr. Johnson, be a committee to devise ways and means to introduce the manufacture of salt-petre in these colonies.

The committee for examining governor Skene's letters, &c. having communicated to Congress what they found relative to the dispute between Great-Britain and these colonies;

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That governor Philip Skene, lieutenant Moncrief, and Mr. Lundy be released from their present confinement, and permitted to go at large any where within eight miles of the city, between Delaware and Schuylkill, on their parole of honor, not to pass those limits, and that they will hold no correspondence with any person whatsoever, on any political subject.

That Mr. Gadsden be added to the committee for examining governor Skene's papers, and that said committee have it in charge to execute the above resolve.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

MONDAY, June 12, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee, appointed to prepare a resolution for a fast, brought in their report, which, being read, was agreed to as follows:

As the great Governor of the world, by his supreme and universal providence, not only conducts the course of nature with unerring wisdom and rectitude, but frequently influences the minds of men to serve the wise and gracious purposes of his providential government; and it being, at all times, our indispensable duty devoutly to acknowledge his superintending providence, especially in times of impending danger and public calamity, to reverence and adore his immutable justice as well as to implore his merciful interposition for our deliverance:

This Congress, therefore, considering the present critical, alarming and calamitous state of these colonies, do earnestly recommend that Thursday, the

20th day of July next, be observed, by the inhabitants of all the English colonies on this continent, as a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer; that we may, with united hearts and voices, unfeignedly confess and deplore our many sins; and offer up our joint supplications to the all-wise, omnipotent, and merciful Disposer of all events; humbly beseeching him to forgive our iniquities, to remove our present calamities, to avert those desolating judgments, with which we are threatened, and to bless our rightful sovereign, king George the third, and to inspire him with wisdom to discern and pursue the true interest of his subjects, that a speedy end may be put to the civil discord between Great-Britain and the American colonies, without farther effusion of blood: And that the British nation may be influenced to regard the things that belong to her peace, before they are hid from her eyes: That these colonies may ever be under the care and protection of a kind Providence, and be prospered in all their interests; that the divine blessing may descend and rest upon all our civil rulers, and upon the representatives of the people, in their several assemblies and conventions, that they may be directed to wise and effectual measures for preserving the union, and securing the just rights and privileges of the colonies; that virtue and true religion may revive and flourish throughout our land; and that all America may soon behold a gracious interposition of heaven, for the redress of her many grievances, the restoration of her invaded rights, a reconciliation with the parent state, on terms constitutional and honorable to both; and that her civil and religious privileges may be secured to the latest posterity.

And it is recommended to Christians, of all denominations, to assemble for public worship, and to abstain from servile labour and recreation on said day.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be signed by the president and attested by the secretary, and published in the newspapers, and in hand-bills.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising money, and having spent thereon the remainder of the day, and the day following, adjourned till Wednesday at nine o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 14, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the standing order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America; and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had come to certain resolutions, which he was ordered to report; but not having come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The resolutions being read, were agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That six companies of expert riflemen, be immediately raised in Pennsylvania, two in Maryland, and two in Virginia; that each company consist of a captain, three lieutenants, four serjeants, four corporals, a drummer or trumpeter, and sixty-eight privates.

That each company, as soon as completed, march and join the army near Boston, to be there employed as light-infantry, under the command of the chief officer in that army.

That the pay of the officers and privates be as follows, viz. a captain 20 dollars per month; a lieutenant thirteen dollars and one-third of a dollar per month; a serjeant eight dollars per month; a corporal seven dollars and one-third of a dollar per month; a drummer or trumpeter the same; privates six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar per month; to find their own arms and clothes.

That the form of the enlistment be in the following words:

I have, this day, voluntarily enlisted myself, as a soldier, in the American continental army, for one year, unless sooner discharged: And I do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such rules and regulations, as are, or shall be, established for the government of the said army.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the army.

The following persons were chosen to compose that committee: Mr. Washington, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Deane, Mr. Cushing, and Mr. Hewes.

A letter from the convention of New-York, dated 10th instant, respecting a vessel which is stopped there, on suspicion of having on board provisions for the army and navy at Boston, was read and referred to the delegates of Massachusetts-Bay, Connecticut, and New-York.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the ways and means of raising money, and the state of America. This to be a standing order, until the business is completed.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 15, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee, to whom the letter from the convention of New-York was referred, brought in their report, which being read,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the convention of New-York, for their vigilance in the case of capt. Coffin's vessel, and that it be recommended to them that the vessel be unloaded, and the cargo safely stored, until all just suspicions, concerning the destination of it, shall be removed.

*Ordered*, That the above be transmitted, by the president, in a letter to the chairman of the convention of New-York.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had come to some farther resolutions, which he was ordered to report.

The report of the committee being read and considered,

*Resolved*, That a general be appointed to command all the continental forces, raised, or to be raised, for the defence of American liberty.

That five hundred dollars, per month, be allowed for the pay and expenses of the general.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a general, by ballot, and George Washington, esq. was unanimously elected.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, June 16, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The president informed col. Washington that the Congress had yesterday unanimously made choice of him to be general and commander in chief of the American forces, and requested he would accept of that employment; to which colonel Washington, standing in his place, answered:

"MR. PRESIDENT,

"Though I am truly sensible of the high honor done me, in this appointment, yet I feel great distress, from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust: However, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess in their service, and for support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation.

"But, lest some unlucky event should happen, unfavorable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered, by every gentleman in the room, that I, this day, declare with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with.

"As to pay, sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress, that, as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expense of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses. Those, I doubt not, they will discharge, and that is all I desire."

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to draught a commission and instructions for the general.

The persons chosen to compose the committee, were Mr. Lee, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. J. Adams.

The papers transmitted from the convention of New-York, being read,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of five, and that they report what steps, in their opinion, are necessary to be taken for securing and preserving the friendship of the Indian nations.

The following persons were chosen for this committee, viz. Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Henry, Mr. Duane, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. P. Livingston.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, and came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That two major-generals be appointed for the American army.

That the pay of each of the major-generals be one hundred and sixty-six dollars per month.

That when any of these act in a separate department, he be allowed, for his pay and expenses, three hundred and thirty-two dollars per month.

That there be eight brigadiers-general.

That the pay of each of the brigadiers-general be one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month.

That there be one adjutant-general.

That his pay be one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month.

That there be one commissary-general of stores and provisions.

That his pay be eighty dollars per month.

That there be one quarter-master-general for the grand army, and one deputy, under him, for the separate army.

That the pay of the quarter-master-general be eighty dollars per month, and that of the deputy forty dollars per month.

That there be one pay-master-general, and a deputy under him, for the army in a separate department; that the pay, for the pay-master-general himself, be one hundred dollars per month, and for the deputy pay-master, under him, fifty dollars per month.

That there be one chief engineer at the grand army, and that his pay be sixty dollars per month.

That two assistants be employed under him, and that the pay of each of them be twenty dollars per month.

That there be one chief engineer for the army, in a separate department, and two assistants under him; that the pay of the chief engineer be sixty dollars per month, and the pay of the assistants each, twenty dollars per month.

That there be three aids-de-camp; and that their pay be thirty-three dollars per month each.

That there be a secretary to the general; and that his pay be sixty-six dollars per month.

That there be a secretary to the major-general, acting in a separate department; and that his pay be thirty-three dollars per month.

That there be a commissary of the musters.

That his pay be forty dollars per month.

A letter from the convention of New-York, received by express, was laid before the Congress and read, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the provincial convention of New-York, be desired immediately to apply to governor Trumbull to order the Connecticut troops, now stationed at Greenwich, Stanford, and parts adjacent, to march towards New-York.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 17, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to draught a commission to the general, reported the same, which, being read by paragraphs and debated, was agreed to as follows :

### IN CONGRESS.

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina :

*To George Washington, Esq.*

We, reposing special trust and confidence in your patriotism, valor, conduct, and fidelity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be general and commander in chief, of the army of the United Colonies, and of all the forces now raised, or to be raised, by them, and of all others who shall voluntarily offer their service, and join the said army for the defence of American liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof: And you are hereby vested with full power and authority to act as you shall think for the good and welfare of the service.

And we do hereby strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, and diligent in the exercise of their several duties.

And we do also enjoin and require you, to be careful in executing the great trust reposed in you, by causing strict discipline and order to be observed in the army, and that the soldiers be duly exercised, and provided with all convenient necessaries.

And you are to regulate your conduct in every respect by the rules and discipline of war, (as herewith given you,) and punctually to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this, or a future Congress of these United Colonies, or committee of Congress.

This commission to continue in force, until revoked by this, or a future Congress.

By order of the Congress.

*Ordered*, That the same be fairly transcribed, signed by the president, attested by the secretary, and delivered to the general.

*Resolved unanimously*, Whereas, the delegates of all the colonies, from Nova-Scotia to Georgia, in Congress assembled, have unanimously chosen George Washington, esq. to be general and commander in chief, of such forces as are, or shall be, raised for the maintenance and preservation of American liberty; this Congress doth now declare, that they will maintain and assist him, and adhere to him, the said George Washington, with their lives and fortunes in the same cause.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of the officers in the army by ballot:

Artemus Ward, esq. was chosen first major-general.

Horatio Gates, esq. adjutant-general.

*Resolved*, That Horatio Gates, esq. now chosen adjutant-general, shall have the rank of brigadier-general.

Charles Lee, esq. second major-general.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

**MONDAY, June, 19, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The president laid before the Congress, sundry letters he had received from Massachusetts-Bay and New-York, which were read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. J. Adams, be a committee to wait upon general Lee, and to inform him of his appointment, and request his answer, whether he will accept the command.

The committee returned and reported, that they had waited on general Lee, and informed him of his appointment, and that he gave for answer; "That he had the highest sense of the honor conferred upon him by the Congress; that no effort in his power shall be wanting to serve the American cause."

The letters from Massachusetts-Bay being taken into consideration, the Congress come to the following resolve:

That the governor of Connecticut be requested to direct all the forces raised in that colony, not employed at Ticonderoga and Crown-Point, or recommended by this Congress to be marched towards New-York, to be immediately sent to join the combined army before Boston: And it is earnestly recommended to the colony of Rhode-Island, and to the provincial convention of New-Hampshire, to send immediately to the army before Boston, such of the forces as are already embodied, towards their quotas of the troops agreed to be raised by the New-England colonies.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Lee, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. J. Adams, be a committee to prepare the form of a commission for the major-generals, also for the brigadier-generals, and other officers in the army.

*Resolved*, That there be four major-generals.

The Congress then proceeded to chuse the two remaining major-generals, when Philip Schuyler, esq. was chosen third major-general, and Israel Putnam, esq. was unanimously chosen fourth major-general.

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a commission for the major and brigadier-generals, reported the same, which being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be made out, signed by the president, and attested by the secretary, for each of the major-generals and brigadier-generals.

*Ordered*, That the secretary get a number of commissions, with proper blanks, printed for the other officers.

The committee appointed to prepare a petition to the king, reported a draught of one, which was read.

Adjourned till to-morrow nine o'clock.

**TUESDAY, June 20, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to the general, reported the same, which being read and debated, were agreed to.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock,

**WEDNESDAY, June 21, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. Thomas Jefferson appeared as a delegate for the colony of Virginia, and produced his credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows:

At a convention of the delegates, for the counties and corporations in the colony of Virginia, at the town of Richmond, in the county of Henrico, on Monday, 27th March, 1775.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That Thomas Jefferson, esq. be appointed a deputy to represent this colony in general Congress, in the room of the hon-

orable Peyton Randolph, esq. in case of the non-attendance of the said Peyton Randolph, esq.

Attest,

JOHN TAZEWELL, *clerk of convention.*

At a general assembly, began and held at the capitol, in the city of Williamsburgh, on Thursday, 1st June, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our lord, George the third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, &c. A. D. 1775,

MONDAY, June 5, 15th G. III. 1775.

*Resolved, N. C. D.* That this house doth entirely approve of the proceedings and resolutions of the convention of delegates, for the county and corporations in the colony of Virginia held at Richmond town, in the county of Henrico, the 20th of March, 1775; and that it be recommended to all the good people of this colony, strictly to conform to, and observe the same.

By the house of burgesses,

PEYTON RANDOLPH, *Speaker.*

Mr. Henry informed the Congress, that the general had put into his hand sundry queries, to which he desired the Congress would give an answer.

The queries being read and debated,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare proper answers.

The persons chosen, were Mr. Deane, Mr. Henry, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Lee.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That the general be allowed three aids-de-camp.

That each of the major-generals have two aids-de-camp.

That their pay be thirty-three dollars per month each.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY, June 22, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare answers to the general's queries, reported the same, which were read.

The Congress then came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the number of brigadier-generals be augmented to eight: and the same were chosen by ballot, as follows:

Seth Pomeroy, esq. first brigadier-general.

Richard Montgomery, esq. second do.

David Worster, esq. third do.

William Heath, esq. fourth do.

Joseph Spencer, esq. fifth do.

John Thomas, esq. sixth do.

John Sullivan, esq. seventh do.

Nathaniel Green, esq. eighth do.

*Resolved*, That the troops, including the volunteers, be furnished with camp equipage, and blankets, where necessary, at the continental expense.

*Resolved*, That the officers, now in the army, receive their new commissions through the hands of the general.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding two millions of Spanish milled dollars be emitted by the Congress in bills of credit, for the defence of America.

*Resolved*, That the twelve confederated colonies be pledged for the redemption of the bills of credit, now directed to be emitted.

Upon motion made, *Resolved*, That the colony of Pennsylvania raise two more companies of riflemen, and that these, with the six before ordered to be by then raised, making eight companies, be formed into a battalion, to be commanded by such field officers, captains and lieutenants, as shall be recommended by the assembly or convention of said colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, June 23, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from Crown-Point, dated June 10, was laid before the Congress and read. Information being given, that two officers who brought the letter were at the door, and had some things of importance to communicate,

*Ordered*, That they be introduced, and they were introduced. After they withdrew, the Congress came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the officer commanding in the New-York department, to procure, as soon as possible, a list of the men employed in taking and garrisoning Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, and keeping possession of the lakes, and also of their disbursements, in order that they may be paid.

*Resolved*, That their pay be the same as that of the officers and privates in the American army ; the highest of the officers not to exceed that of a captain, and that the pay commence the third day of May last, and continue till they are discharged.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, that they, consulting with general Schuyler, employ in the army to be raised for the defence of America, those called Green Mountain Boys, under such officers as the said Green Mountain Boys shall chuse.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That a committee of five be chosen to draw up a declaration, to be published by general Washington, upon his arrival at the camp before Boston.

The committee chosen are Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Johnson.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the state of America, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported certain resolutions come into by them, and that not having yet finished, they desired leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That the number and denomination of the bills to be emitted be as follows :

49,000 bills of 8 dollars each—392,000	245,000 Brought up,	1,470,000
49,000 do. of 7 dollars each—343,000	49,000 do. of 3 dollars each—147,000	
49,000 do. of 6 dollars each—294,000	49,000 do. of 2 dollars each— 98,000	
49,000 do. of 5 dollars each—245,000	49,000 do. of 1 dollars each— 49,000	
49,000 do. of 4 dollars each—196,000	11,800 do. of 20 dollars each—236,000	
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
245,000 Carried up,	\$ 1,470,000	403,800
		\$2,000,000

*Resolved*, That the form of the bills be as follows :

### CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

No.

Dollars.

THIS bill entitles the bearer to receive

Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the resolutions of the Congress, held at Philadelphia, on the 10th day of May, A. D. 1775.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Adams, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Duane, doctor Franklin, and Mr. Wilson, be a committee to get proper plates engraved, to provide paper, and to agree with printers to print the above bills.

The order for a committee of the whole renewed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 24, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means to put the militia of America in a proper state for the defence of America.

The members chosen are Mr. Paine, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Dickinson.

The committee appointed to prepare a declaration to be published by general Washington, upon his arrival at the camp before Boston, brought in their report, which was read and debated, and after some time referred for farther consideration till Monday next.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from governor Trumbull was read, and referred to the committee appointed to devise ways and means for introducing the manufacture of salt-petre into these colonies.

The state of North-Carolina being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions :

Whereas it is represented to this Congress, that the enemies of the liberties of America are pursuing measures to divide the good people of the colony of North-Carolina, and to defeat the American association ;

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all in that colony, who wish well to the liberties of America, to associate for the defence of American liberty, and to embody themselves as militia, under proper officers.

*Resolved*, That in case the assembly or convention of that colony shall think it absolutely necessary, for the support of the American association and safety of the colony, to raise a body of forces not exceeding one thousand men, this Congress will consider them as an American army, and provide for their pay.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the declaration, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Jefferson be added to the committee.

The committee for Indian affairs brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the president write to governor Trumbull, and inform him, and also the conventions of New-Hampshire and Massachusetts-Bay, and the government of Rhode-Island, that the Congress have appointed George Washington, esq. commander in chief of all the forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

### TUESDAY, June 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That governor Skené be sent under a guard to Weathersfield, or Middletown, in the county of Hartford, in Connecticut, there to be confined on his parole, not to go out of the bounds prescribed to him by governor Trumbull.

*Ordered*, That the delegates for Pennsylvania take measures to have the above resolve carried into execution.

A letter from the convention of Massachusetts-Bay, received by express, was laid before the Congress and read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the state of affairs in the New-York department, and after some time spent therein, came to certain resolutions, which were ordered to be immediately transmitted to general Schuyler for his direction.

The committee appointed to draw up an address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, reported the same, which was read.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

**WEDNESDAY, June 28, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the army, reported the same, which was read, and taken into consideration. And the remainder of the day, and the day following, being spent thereon, adjourned till the next day at nine o'clock.

**FRIDAY, June 30, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the rules and regulations, which being gone through, were agreed to as follows :

Whereas his majesty's most faithful subjects in these colonies are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the British ministry, to carry into execution, by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the British parliament for laying taxes in America, to enforce the collection of those taxes, and for altering and changing the constitution and internal police of some of these colonies, in violation of the natural and civil rights of the colonies.

And whereas hostilities have been actually commenced in Massachusetts-Bay, by the British troops, under the command of general Gage, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that colony destroyed ; the town of Boston not only having been long occupied as a garrisoned town in an enemy's country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified even towards declared enemies.

And whereas large reinforcements have been ordered, and are soon expected, for the declared purpose of compelling these colonies to submit to the operation of the said acts, which hath rendered it necessary, and an indispensable duty, for the express purpose of securing and defending these colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said acts into execution, that an armed force be raised sufficient to defeat such hostile designs, and preserve and defend the lives, liberties and immunities of the colonists : for the due regulating and well ordering of which ;

*Resolved*, That the following rules and orders be attended to, and observed by such forces as are or may hereafter be raised for the purposes afore said.

*Article I.* That every officer who shall be retained, and every soldier who shall serve in the continental army, shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission or enlistment, subscribe these rules and regulations. And that the officers and soldiers, already of that army, shall also, as soon as may be, subscribe the same ; from the time of which subscription every officer and soldier, shall be bound by those regulations. But if any of the officers or soldiers, now of the said army, do not subscribe these rules and regulations, then they may be retained in the said army, subject to the rules and regulations under which they entered into the service, or be discharged from the service, at the option of the commander in chief.

*II.* It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers, diligently to attend divine service ; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a court-martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the president ; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending, shall, for his first offence, forfeit one-sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay ; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined for twenty-four hours, and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner ; which money so forfeited, shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

III. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of four shillings, lawful money.

IV. Any officer or soldier, who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the general or generals, or commanders in chief of the continental forces, or shall speak false words, tending to his or their hurt or dishonor, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

V. Any officer or soldier, who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition, in the regiment, troop, or company to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop or company of the continental forces, either by land or sea, or in any part, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment, as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

VI. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any mutiny, or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officer, shall be punished by order of a general court-martial, according to the nature of his offence.

VII. Any officer or soldier, who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

VIII. Any non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who shall desert, or without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from the troop or company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a general court-martial.

IX. Whatsoever officer, or soldier, shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier, to desert, shall suffer such punishment, as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

X. All officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned, should belong to another regiment, troop, or company; and either order officers to be arrested, or non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith: and whoever shall refuse to obey such officer, (though of an inferior rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

XI. No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel: And whoever shall, knowingly and willingly, suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed as a principal; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

XII. Every officer, commanding in quarters or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command: If upon any complaint being made to him, of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting

of the inhabitants of this continent; he the said commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a general court martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

XIII. If any officer should think himself to be wronged by his colonel or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the general or commander in chief of the continental forces, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint, and see that justice be done.

XIV. If any inferior officer or soldier, shall think himself wronged by his captain or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a regimental court-martial, for the doing justice to the complainant; from which regimental court-martial, either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a general court-martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing, shall be punished at the discretion of the general court-martial.

XV. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall be convicted, at a regimental court-martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the ammunition, arms, or provisions, or other military stores, delivered out to him, to be employed in the service of this continent, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel; and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court-martial.

XVI. All non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or them by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XVII. No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp, without leave from the commanding officer of the regiment, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of a regimental court-martial.

XVIII. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters, or tent, at the beating of the retreat; in default of which, he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the commanding officer.

XIX. No officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity; or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XX. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XXI. Whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

XXII. Any person belonging to the continental army, who, by discharging of fire arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms, in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXIII.** Any officer or soldier, who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

**XXIV.** No officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult, or abuse, to any person who shall bring provisions, or other necessaries, to the camp or quarters of the continental army; any officer or soldier so offending, shall, upon complaint being made to the commanding officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court-martial.

**XXV.** Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

**XXVI.** Any person belonging to the continental army, who shall make known the watch-word to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole, or watch-word, different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXVII.** Whosoever belonging to the continental army, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbor or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXVIII.** Whosoever belonging to the continental army, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to, the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXIX.** All public stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, or provisions, shall be secured for the use of the United Colonies.

**XXX.** If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colors, in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof before a general court-martial, suffer such punishment as by the said court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXXI.** If any commander of any post, intrenchment, or fortress, shall be compelled, by the officers or soldiers under his command, to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officer, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXXII.** All suttlers and retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever, serving with the continental army in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subject to the articles, rules, and regulations of the continental army.

**XXXIII.** No general court-martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of which shall be under the degree of a commissioned officer; and the president shall be a field officer: And the president of each and every court-martial, whether general or regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders. And the members of all courts-martial shall be duly sworn by the president; and the next in rank on the court-martial, shall administer the oath to the president.

**XXXIV.** The members, both of general and regimental courts-martial, shall, when belonging to different corps, take the same rank which they hold in the army; but when courts-martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions by which they are mustered in the said corps.

**XXXV.** All the members of a court-martial, are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality; and in giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

**XXXVI.** No field officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a captain ; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on, excepting between the hours of eight in the morning, and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

**XXXVII.** The commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their colonel or commanding officer, hold regimental courts-martial for the enquiring into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishment, for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices ; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the court-martial) shall have confirmed the same.

**XXXVIII.** No regimental court-martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient; who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices ; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer, not being a member of the court-martial.

**XXXIX.** Every officer, commanding in any fort, castle, or barrack, or elsewhere, where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments or of independent companies, may assemble courts-martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said commanding officer.

**XL.** No person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures in the presence of a court-martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceeding, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said court-martial.

**XLI.** To the end that offenders may be brought to justice ; whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest ; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a court-martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

**XLII.** No officer, or soldier who shall be put in arrest, or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court-martial can be conveniently assembled.

**XLIII.** No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge, by an officer belonging to the continental forces ; which officer shall at the same time deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

**XLIV.** No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing ; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it, by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XLV.** Every officer or provost-marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the colonel of the regiment to whom the prisoner belongs (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps) or to the commander in chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a general court-martial.

**XLVI.** And if any officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, he shall be cashiered for it.

**XLVII.** Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a general court-martial, of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is

unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

**XLVIII.** All officers, conductors, gunners, matrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire, in the service of the continental artillery, shall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial, in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the continental troops.

**XLIX.** For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the courts-martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of artillery shall sit in courts-martial, with the officers of the other corps.

**L.** All crimes, not capital, and all disorders and neglects, which officers and soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the articles of war, are to be taken cognizance of by a general or regimental court-martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

**LI.** That no persons shall be sentenced by a court-martial to suffer death, except in the cases expressly mentioned in the foregoing articles; nor shall any punishment be inflicted at the discretion of a court-martial, other than degrading, cashiering, drumming out of the army, whipping not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, fine not exceeding two months pay of the offender, imprisonment not exceeding one month.

**LII.** The field officers of each and every regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such regiment, to receive all such fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such regiment; and such person shall account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

**LIII.** All members sitting in courts-martial shall be sworn by the president of said courts, which president shall himself be sworn by the officer in said court next in rank:—The oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz.

“You A. B. swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating the continental army. So help you God.”

**LIV.** All persons called to give evidence, in any case, before a court-martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such court-martial:—The oath to be administered in the following form, viz.

“You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God.”

**LV.** Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon notice given to him by the commissary of the musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

**LVI.** Every colonel or other field officer, or officer commanding any corps, to which there is no field officer, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall, by leave of his captain, or inferior officer, commanding the troop or company (his field officer not being present) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their troop or company, excepting some extraordinary occasion should require it, of which occasion the field officer present with, and commanding the regiment or independent corps, is to be judge.

**LVII.** At every muster the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company, then present, shall give to the commissary of musters certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence; which reasons, and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster-rolls, opposite to the respective names of such absentees: The said certificates shall, together with the muster-rolls, be by the said commissary transmitted to the general, and to this or any future Congress of the United Colonies, or committee appointed thereby, within twenty days next after such muster being taken; on failure whereof, the commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

**LVIII.** Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial of having signed a false certificate, relating to the absence of either officers, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier, shall be cashiered.

**LIX.** Every officer, who shall knowingly make a false muster of man or horse, and every officer or commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the muster-rolls, wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof, by two witnesses, before a general court-martial, be cashiered, and moreover forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of conviction for such offence.

**LX.** Any commissary who shall be convicted of having taken any gift or gratuity on the mustering any regiment, troop or company, or on the signing the muster-rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding article.

**LXI.** Any officer who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier, who is at other times accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

**LXII.** Every officer who shall knowingly make a false return to the commander in chief of the American forces, or to any his superior officer, authorized to call for such returns, of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison under his command, or of arms, ammunition, clothing, or other stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

**LXIII.** The commanding officer of every regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison, in the service aforesaid, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the commander in chief of said forces, an exact return of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and the time of their absence: whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted the sending such returns, shall be punished according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

**LXIV.** No suttler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveilles, or upon Sundays, during divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

**LXV.** All officers commanding in the camp, or in any forts, barracks, or garrisons, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions at a reasonable price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

**LXVI.** No officers commanding in any camp, garrisons, forts, or barracks, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls let out to suttlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others, nor lay any duty or impositions upon, or be interested in the sale of such victuals, liquors, or other necessaries of life, which are brought into the camp, garrison, fort or barracks, for the use of the soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

The members chosen are Mr. Paine, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Dickinson.

The committee appointed to prepare a declaration to be published by general Washington, upon his arrival at the camp before Boston, brought in their report, which was read and debated, and after some time referred for farther consideration till Monday next.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from governor Trumbull was read, and referred to the committee appointed to devise ways and means for introducing the manufacture of salt-petre into these colonies.

The state of North-Carolina being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions :

Whereas it is represented to this Congress, that the enemies of the liberties of America are pursuing measures to divide the good people of the colony of North-Carolina, and to defeat the American association ;

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all in that colony, who wish well to the liberties of America, to associate for the defence of American liberty, and to embody themselves as militia, under proper officers.

*Resolved*, That in case the assembly or convention of that colony shall think it absolutely necessary, for the support of the American association and safety of the colony, to raise a body of forces not exceeding one thousand men, this Congress will consider them as an American army, and provide for their pay.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the declaration, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Jefferson be added to the committee.

The committee for Indian affairs brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the president write to governor Trumbull, and inform him, and also the conventions of New-Hampshire and Massachusetts-Bay, and the government of Rhode-Island, that the Congress have appointed George Washington, esq. commander in chief of all the forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of America.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

### TUESDAY, June 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That governor Skene be sent under a guard to Weathersfield, or Middletown, in the county of Hartford, in Connecticut, there to be confined on his parole, not to go out of the bounds prescribed to him by governor Trumbull.

*Ordered*, That the delegates for Pennsylvania take measures to have the above resolve carried into execution.

A letter from the convention of Massachusetts-Bay, received by express, was laid before the Congress and read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the state of affairs in the New-York department, and after some time spent therein, came to certain resolutions, which were ordered to be immediately transmitted to general Schuyler for his direction.

The committee appointed to draw up an address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, reported the same, which was read.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, *June 28, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the army, reported the same, which was read, and taken into consideration. And the remainder of the day, and the day following, being spent thereon, adjourned till the next day at nine o'clock.

FRIDAY, *June 30, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the rules and regulations, which being gone through, were agreed to as follows :

Whereas his majesty's most faithful subjects in these colonies are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the British ministry, to carry into execution, by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the British parliament for laying taxes in America, to enforce the collection of those taxes, and for altering and changing the constitution and internal police of some of these colonies, in violation of the natural and civil rights of the colonies.

And whereas hostilities have been actually commenced in Massachusetts-Bay, by the British troops, under the command of general Gage, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that colony destroyed ; the town of Boston not only having been long occupied as a garrisoned town in an enemy's country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified even towards declared enemies.

And whereas large reinforcements have been ordered, and are soon expected, for the declared purpose of compelling these colonies to submit to the operation of the said acts, which hath rendered it necessary, and an indispensable duty, for the express purpose of securing and defending these colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said acts into execution, that an armed force be raised sufficient to defeat such hostile designs, and preserve and defend the lives, liberties and immunities of the colonists : for the due regulating and well ordering of which ;

*Resolved*, That the following rules and orders be attended to, and observed by such forces as are or may hereafter be raised for the purposes aforesaid.

*Article I.* That every officer who shall be retained, and every soldier who shall serve in the continental army, shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission or enlistment, subscribe these rules and regulations. And that the officers and soldiers, already of that army, shall also, as soon as may be, subscribe the same ; from the time of which subscription every officer and soldier, shall be bound by those regulations. But if any of the officers or soldiers, now of the said army, do not subscribe these rules and regulations, then they may be retained in the said army, subject to the rules and regulations under which they entered into the service, or be discharged from the service, at the option of the commander in chief.

*II.* It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers, diligently to attend divine service ; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a court-martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the president ; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending, shall, for his first offence, forfeit one-sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay ; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined for twenty-four hours, and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner ; which money so forfeited, shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

III. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of four shillings, lawful money.

IV. Any officer or soldier, who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the general or generals, or commanders in chief of the continental forces, or shall speak false words, tending to his or their hurt or dishonor, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

V. Any officer or soldier, who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition, in the regiment, troop, or company to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop or company of the continental forces, either by land or sea, or in any part, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment, as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

VI. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any mutiny, or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officer, shall be punished by order of a general court-martial, according to the nature of his offence.

VII. Any officer or soldier, who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

VIII. Any non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who shall desert, or without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from the troop or company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a general court-martial.

IX. Whatsoever officer, or soldier, shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier, to desert, shall suffer such punishment, as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

X. All officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned, should belong to another regiment, troop, or company; and either order officers to be arrested, or non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith: and whoever shall refuse to obey such officer, (though of an inferior rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

XI. No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel: And whoever shall, knowingly and willingly, suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed as a principal; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

XII. Every officer, commanding in quarters or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command: If upon any complaint being made to him, of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting

of the inhabitants of this continent; he the said commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a general court martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

XIII. If any officer should think himself to be wronged by his colonel or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the general or commander in chief of the continental forces, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint, and see that justice be done.

XIV. If any inferior officer or soldier, shall think himself wronged by his captain or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a regimental court-martial, for the doing justice to the complainant; from which regimental court-martial, either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a general court-martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing, shall be punished at the discretion of the general court-martial.

XV. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall be convicted, at a regimental court-martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the ammunition, arms, or provisions, or other military stores, delivered out to him, to be employed in the service of this continent, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel; and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court-martial.

XVI. All non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or them by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XVII. No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp, without leave from the commanding officer of the regiment, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of a regimental court-martial.

XVIII. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters, or tent, at the beating of the retreat; in default of which, he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the commanding officer.

XIX. No officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity; or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XX. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

XXI. Whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

XXII. Any person belonging to the continental army, who, by discharging of fire arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms, in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXIII.** Any officer or soldier, who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a regimental court-martial.

**XXIV.** No officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult, or abuse, to any person who shall bring provisions, or other necessities, to the camp or quarters of the continental army; any officer or soldier so offending, shall, upon complaint being made to the commanding officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a regimental court-martial.

**XXV.** Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

**XXVI.** Any person belonging to the continental army, who shall make known the watch-word to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole, or watch-word, different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXVII.** Whosoever belonging to the continental army, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbor or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXVIII.** Whosoever belonging to the continental army, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to, the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a general court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXIX.** All public stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, or provisions, shall be secured for the use of the United Colonies.

**XXX.** If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colors, in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof before a general court-martial, suffer such punishment as by the said court-martial shall be ordered.

**XXXI.** If any commander of any post, intrenchment, or fortress, shall be compelled, by the officers or soldiers under his command, to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officer, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**XXXII.** All sutlers and retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever, serving with the continental army in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subject to the articles, rules, and regulations of the continental army.

**XXXIII.** No general court-martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of which shall be under the degree of a commissioned officer; and the president shall be a field officer: And the president of each and every court-martial, whether general or regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders. And the members of all courts-martial shall be duly sworn by the president; and the next in rank on the court-martial, shall administer the oath to the president.

**XXXIV.** The members, both of general and regimental courts-martial, shall, when belonging to different corps, take the same rank which they hold in the army; but when courts-martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions by which they are mustered in the said corps.

**XXXV.** All the members of a court-martial, are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality; and in giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

XXXVI. No field officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a captain ; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on, excepting between the hours of eight in the morning, and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

XXXVII. The commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their colonel or commanding officer, hold regimental courts-martial for the enquiring into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishment, for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices ; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the court-martial) shall have confirmed the same.

XXXVIII. No regimental court-martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient; who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices ; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer, not being a member of the court-martial.

XXXIX. Every officer, commanding in any fort, castle, or barrack, or elsewhere, where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments or of independent companies, may assemble courts-martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said commanding officer.

XL. No person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures in the presence of a court-martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceeding, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said court-martial.

XLI. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice ; whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest ; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a court-martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

XLII. No officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest, or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court-martial can be conveniently assembled.

XLIII. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge, by an officer belonging to the continental forces ; which officer shall at the same time deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

XLIV. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing ; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it, by the sentence of a general court-martial.

XLV. Every officer or provost-marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the colonel of the regiment to whom the prisoner belongs (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps) or to the commander in chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a general court-martial.

XLVI. And if any officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, he shall be cashiered for it.

XLVII. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a general court-martial, of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is

unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

**XLVIII.** All officers, conductors, gunners, matrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire, in the service of the continental artillery, hall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial, in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the continental troops.

**XLIX.** For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the courts-martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of artillery shall sit in courts-martial, with the officers of the other corps.

**L.** All crimes, not capital, and all disorders and neglects, which officers and soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the articles of war, are to be taken cognizance of by a general or regimental court-martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

**LI.** That no persons shall be sentenced by a court-martial to suffer death, except in the cases expressly mentioned in the foregoing articles; nor shall any punishment be inflicted at the discretion of a court-martial, other than degrading, cashiering, drumming out of the army, whipping not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, fine not exceeding two months pay of the offender, imprisonment not exceeding one month.

**LII.** The field officers of each and every regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such regiment, to receive all such fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such regiment; and such person shall account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

**LIII.** All members sitting in courts-martial shall be sworn by the president of said courts, which president shall himself be sworn by the officer in said court next in rank:—The oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz.

“You A. B. swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating the continental army. So help you God.”

**LIV.** All persons called to give evidence, in any case, before a court-martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such court-martial:—The oath to be administered in the following form, viz.

“You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God.”

**LV.** Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon notice given to him by the commissary of the musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

**LVI.** Every colonel or other field officer, or officer commanding any corps, to which there is no field officer, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall, by leave of his captain, or inferior officer, commanding the troop or company (his field officer not being present) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their troop or company, excepting some extraordinary occasion should require it, of which occasion the field officer present with, and commanding the regiment or independent corps, is to be judge.

**LVII.** At every muster the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company, then present, shall give to the commissary of musters certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence; which reasons, and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster-rolls, opposite to the respective names of such absentees: The said certificates shall, together with the muster-rolls, be by the said commissary transmitted to the general, and to this or any future Congress of the United Colonies, or committee appointed thereby, within twenty days next after such muster being taken; on failure whereof, the commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

**LVIII.** Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial of having signed a false certificate, relating to the absence of either officers, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier, shall be cashiered.

**LIX.** Every officer, who shall knowingly make a false muster of man or horse, and every officer or commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the muster-rolls, wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof, by two witnesses, before a general court-martial, be cashiered, and moreover forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of conviction for such offence.

**LX.** Any commissary who shall be convicted of having taken any gift or gratuity on the mustering any regiment, troop or company, or on the signing the muster-rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding article.

**LXI.** Any officer who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier, who is at other times accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

**LXII.** Every officer who shall knowingly make a false return to the commander in chief of the American forces, or to any his superior officer, authorized to call for such returns, of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison under his command, or of arms, ammunition, clothing, or other stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

**LXIII.** The commanding officer of every regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison, in the service aforesaid, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the commander in chief of said forces, an exact return of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and the time of their absence: whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted the sending such returns, shall be punished according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

**LXIV.** No suttler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveilles, or upon Sundays, during divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

**LXV.** All officers commanding in the camp, or in any forts, barracks, or garrisons, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions at a reasonable price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

**LXVI.** No officers commanding in any camp, garrisons, forts, or barracks, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls let out to suttlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others, nor lay any duty or impositions upon, or be interested in the sale of such victuals, liquors, or other necessaries of life, which are brought into the camp, garrison, fort or barracks, for the use of the soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

**LXVII.** That the general, or commander in chief for the time being, shall have full power of pardoning, or mitigating any of the punishments ordered to be inflicted, for any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing articles; and every offender, convicted as aforesaid, by any regimental court-martial, may be pardoned, or have his punishment mitigated by the colonel or officer commanding the regiment.

**LXVIII.** When any commissioned officer shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of the United Colonies, the major of the regiment, or the officer doing the major's duty in his absence, shall immediately secure all his effects or equipage, then in camp or quarters; and shall, before the next regimental court-martial, make an inventory thereof, and forthwith transmit to the office of the secretary of the Congress, or assembly of the province in which the corps is stationed or shall happen to be at the time of the death of such officer; to the end that his executors may, after payment of his debts in quarters, and interment, receive the overplus, if any be, to his or their use.

**LXIX.** When any non-commissioned officer or private soldier, shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of the United Colonies, the then commanding officer of the troop or company, shall, in the presence of two other commissioned officers, take an account of whatever effects he dies possessed of, and transmit the same, as in the case above provided for, in order that the same may be secured for, and paid to their respective representatives.\*

\*IN CONGRESS, *November 7, 1775.*

*Resolved,* That the following additions and alterations or amendments, be made in the **RULES AND REGULATIONS** of the continental army.

1. All persons convicted of holding a treacherous correspondence with, or giving intelligence to the enemy, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a general court-martial shall think proper

2. All commissioned officers found guilty by a general court-martial of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for further service as an officer.

3. All non-commissioned officers and soldiers, convicted before a regimental court-martial of stealing, embezzling or destroying ammunition, provision, tools, or any thing belonging to the public stores, if a non-commissioned officer, to be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the court-martial; if a private soldier with the same corporeal punishment.

4. In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice or fraud, it be added in the punishment, that the crime, name, place of abode, and punishment of the delinquent be published in the newspapers, in and about the camp, and of that colony from which the offender came, or usually resides: after which it shall be deemed scandalous in any officer to associate with him.

5. Any officer or soldier, who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition in the regiment, troop, or company to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop, or company of the continental forces, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment, as a general court-martial shall direct.

6. Any officer or soldier, who shall desert to the enemy, and afterwards be taken, shall suffer death, or such other punishment, as a general court-martial shall direct.

7. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered and drummed out of the army with infamy; any non-commissioned officer or soldier, so offending, shall be sentenced to be whipt, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence.

8. Whatsoever officer or soldier, placed as a sentinel, shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered, and drummed out of the army with infamy; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall be sentenced to be whipt, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence:

9. No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp, without leave from the commanding officer of the regiment, upon penalty, if an officer, of being mulcted one month's pay for the first offence, and cashiered for the second; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, of being confined seven days on bread and water for the first offence; and the same punishment and a forfeiture of a week's pay for the second.

**Ordered**, That Mr. Deane, Mr. Cushing and Mr. Hewes, be a committee to revise them for the press, and to get them printed.

**Resolved**, That the Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to consider the trade of these colonies.

A number of letters and speeches from the Stockbridge Indians were laid before the Congress and read:

**Resolved**, That the committee for Indian affairs, do prepare proper talks to the several tribes of Indians, for engaging the continuance of their friendship to us, and neutrality in our present unhappy dispute with Great-Britain.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, July 1, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

On motion made, **Resolved**, That in case any agent of the ministry, shall induce the Indian tribes, or any of them, to commit actual hostilities against these colonies, or to enter into an offensive alliance with the British troops, thereupon the colonies ought to avail themselves of an alliance with such Indian nations as will enter into the same, to oppose such British troops and their Indian allies.

Letters being received by express from general Schuyler, which required an immediate answer, were laid before Congress, and after due deliberation, an answer was returned.

10. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, or shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, shall suffer death.

11. All public stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, or provisions, shall be secured for the use of the United Colonies: and all commissioned officers, found guilty, by general court-martial, of embezzling the same, or any of them, shall forfeit all his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for farther service as an officer. And all non-commissioned officers and soldiers, convicted before a regimental court-martial of stealing or embezzling the same, if a non-commissioned officer, shall be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the court-martial; if a private soldier, with the same punishment.

12. If any officer or soldier, shall leave his post or colours, in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, if a commissioned officer, be cashiered, and drummed out of the army with infamy, and forfeit all share of plunder; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be whipped, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence, and forfeit all share of the plunder taken from the enemy.

13. Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon notice given to him by the commissary of the musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered, on penalty of his being cashiered, and mulcted of his pay.

14. At every muster, the commanding officer of each regiment, troop or company then present, shall give to the commissary of musters, certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence, which reasons and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster rolls, opposite the names of such absentees: and the surgeons or their mates, shall at the same time give to the commissary of musters a certificate signed by them, signifying the state of health or sickness of those under their care, and the said certificate shall, together with the muster rolls, be by the said commissary transmitted to the general, and to this or any future Congress of the United Colonies, or committee appointed thereby, within twenty days next after such muster being taken, on failure whereof, the commissary so offending, shall be discharged from the service.

15. Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial, of having signed a false certificate relating to the absence of either officer, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier; and every surgeon or mate, convicted of signing a false certificate, relating to the health or sickness of those under his care, shall be cashiered.

16. All officers and soldiers who shall wilfully, or through negligence, disobey any general or special orders, shall be punished at the discretion of a regimental court-martial, where the offence is against a regimental order, and at the discretion of a general court-martial, where the offence is against an order given from the commander in chief, or the commanding officer of any detachment or post, and such general court-martial can be had.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That lieutenant Patrick Moncrief have liberty to return to England, on giving his parole of honor, that he will not act against the Americans in the present controversy between Great-Britain and these colonies.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

MONDAY, July 3, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Sundry letters being laid before the Congress, were read.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to consider the trade of these colonies, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported a resolution they had come to.

The resolution of the committee being read, was, at the desire of the colony of South-Carolina, referred for farther consideration till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, July 4, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The report from the committee of the whole being resumed and debated, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That the two acts passed in the first session of the present parliament, the one, intituled "An act to restrain the trade and commerce of the province of Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, and the colonies of Connecticut and Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, in North-America, to Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British islands in the West-Indies; and to prohibit such provinces and colonies from carrying on any fishery on the banks of Newfoundland or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations:" The other, intituled "An act to restrain the trade and commerce of the colonies of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South-Carolina, to Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British islands in the West-Indies, under certain conditions and limitations," are unconstitutional, oppressive, and cruel; and that the commercial opposition of these colonies, to certain acts enumerated in the association of the last Congress, ought to be made against these, until they are repealed.

*Ordered*, That the above be immediately published.

The petition to the king being again read, after some debate, the further consideration of it was deferred till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, July 5, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Several letters were laid before the Congress and read.

It appearing that governor Philip Skene and Mr. Lundy have designs inimical to America :

*Ordered*, That it be recommended to the delegates of the colony of Pennsylvania, to have the order of Congress of the 27th of June last, respecting the sending governor Skene to Connecticut, immediately carried into execution.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Lundy be sent under guard along with governor Skene to Connecticut, there to be confined in the same manner as is ordered with respect to governor Skene.

*Resolved*, That such provision be made for the support of governor Skene and Mr. Lundy, as governor Trumbull shall think proper, at the expense of the United Colonies.

*Ordered*, That the president write to governor Trumbull on this subject, and enclose him the above order and resolves.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the petition to the king, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY, *July 6, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, and after some debate, the same was re-committed.

The committee, to whom the declaration was re-committed, brought in the same, which being again read, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

A declaration by the Representatives of the United Colonies of North-America, now met in Congress at Philadelphia, setting forth the causes and necessity of their taking up arms.

If it was possible for men, who exercise their reason, to believe, that the divine Author of our existence intended a part of the human race to hold an absolute property in, and an unbounded power over others, marked out by his infinite goodness and wisdom, as the objects of a legal domination never rightfully resistible, however severe and oppressive, the inhabitants of these colonies might at least require from the parliament of Great-Britain some evidence, that this dreadful authority over them, has been granted to that body. But a reverence for our great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, must convince all those who reflect upon the subject, that government was instituted to promote the welfare of mankind, and ought to be administered for the attainment of that end. The legislature of Great-Britain, however, stimulated by an inordinate passion for a power, not only unjustifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly reprobated by the very constitution of that kingdom, and desperate of success in any mode of contest, where regard should be had to truth, law, or right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their cruel and impolitic purpose of enslaving these colonies by violence, and have thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last appeal from reason to arms.—Yet, however blinded that assembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited domination, so to slight justice and the opinion of mankind, we esteem ourselves bound, by obligations of respect to the rest of the world, to make known the justice of our cause.

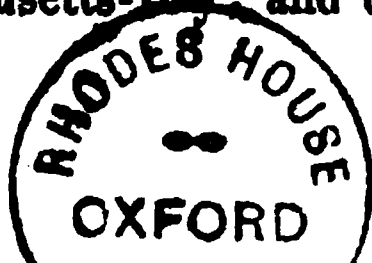
Our forefathers, inhabitants of the island of Great-Britain, left their native land, to seek on these shores a residence for civil and religious freedom. At the expense of their blood, at the hazard of their fortunes, without the least charge to the country from which they removed, by unceasing labour, and an unconquerable spirit, they effected settlements in the distant and inhospitable wilds of America, then filled with numerous and warlike nations of barbarians. Societies or governments, vested with perfect legislatures, were formed under charters from the crown, and an harmonious intercourse was established between the colonies and the kingdom from which they derived their origin. The mutual benefits of this union became in a short time so extraordinary, as to excite astonishment. It is universally confessed, that the amazing increase of the wealth, strength, and navigation of the realm, arose from this source ; and the minister, who so wisely and successfully directed the measures of Great-Britain in the late war, publicly declared, that these colonies enabled her to triumph over her enemies.—Towards the conclusion of that war, it pleased our sovereign to make a change in his counsels.—From that fatal moment, the affairs of the British empire began to fall into confusion, and gradually sliding from the summit of glorious prosperity, to which they had been advanced by the virtues and abilities of one man, are at length distracted by the convulsions, that now shake it to its deepest foundations. The new ministry finding the brave foes of Britain, though frequently defeated, yet still contending, took up the unfortunate idea of granting them a hasty peace, and of then subduing her faithful friends.

These devoted colonies were judged to be in such a state, as to present victories without bloodshed, and all the easy emoluments of statuteable plunder.—The uninterrupted tenor of their peaceable and respectful behaviour from the beginning of colonization, their dutiful, zealous, and useful services during the war, though so recently and amply acknowledged in the most honorable manner by his majesty, by the late king, and by parliament, could not save them from the meditated innovations.—Parliament was influenced to adopt the pernicious project, and assuming a new power over them, have, in the course of eleven years, given such decisive specimens of the spirit and consequences attending this power, as to leave no doubt concerning the effects of acquiescence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our money without our consent, though we have ever exercised an exclusive right to dispose of our own property; statutes have been passed for extending the jurisdiction of courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty beyond their ancient limits; for depriving us of the accustomed and inestimable privilege of trial by jury, in cases affecting both life and property; for suspending the legislature of one of the colonies; for interdicting all commerce to the capital of another; and for altering fundamentally the form of government established by charter, and secured by acts of its own legislature solemnly confirmed by the crown; for exempting the “murderers” of colonists from legal trial, and in effect, from punishment; for erecting in a neighboring province, acquired by the joint arms of Great-Britain and America, a despotism dangerous to our very existence; and for quartering soldiers upon the colonists in time of profound peace. It has also been resolved in parliament, that colonists charged with committing certain offences, shall be transported to England to be tried.

But why should we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one statute it is declared, that parliament can “of right make laws to bind us in all cases whatsoever.” What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a power? Not a single man of those who assume it, is chosen by us; or is subject to our controul or influence; but, on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of such laws, and an American revenue, if not diverted from the ostensible purposes for which it is raised, would actually lighten their own burdens in proportion as they increase ours. We saw the misery to which such despotism would reduce us. We for ten years incessantly and ineffectually besieged the throne as supplicants; we reasoned, we remonstrated with parliament, in the most mild and decent language.

Administration, sensible that we should regard these oppressive measures as freemen ought to do, sent over fleets and armies to enforce them. The indignation of the Americans was roused, it is true; but it was the indignation of a virtuous, loyal, and affectionate people. A Congress of delegates from the United Colonies was assembled at Philadelphia, on the fifth day of last September. We resolved again to offer an humble and dutiful petition to the king, and also addressed our fellow-subjects of Great Britain. We have pursued every temperate, every respectful measure: we have even proceeded to break off our commercial intercourse with our fellow-subjects, as the last peaceable admonition, that our attachment to no nation upon earth should supplant our attachment to liberty.—This, we flattered ourselves, was the ultimate step of the controversy: but subsequent events have shewn, how vain was this hope of finding moderation in our enemies.

Several threatening expressions against the colonies were inserted in his majesty’s speech; our petition, though we were told it was a decent one, and that his majesty had been pleased to receive it graciously, and to promise laying it before his parliament, was huddled into both houses among a bundle of American papers, and there neglected. The lords and commons in their address, in the month of February, said, that “a rebellion at that time actually existed within the province of Massachusetts-Bay: and that those concerned



in it, had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by his majesty's subjects in several of the other colonies; and therefore they besought his majesty, that he would take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme legislature."—Soon after, the commercial intercourse of whole colonies, with foreign countries, and with each other, was cut off by an act of parliament; by another, several of them were entirely prohibited from the fisheries in the seas near their coasts, on which they always depended for their sustenance; and large reinforcements of ships and troops were immediately sent over to general Gage.

Fruitless were all the entreaties, arguments, and eloquence of an illustrious band of the most distinguished peers, and commoners, who nobly and strenuously asserted the justice of our cause, to stay, or even to mitigate the heedless fury with which these accumulated and unexampled outrages were hurried on.—Equally fruitless was the interference of the city of London, of Bristol, and many other respectable towns in our favor. Parliament adopted an insidious manœuvre calculated to divide us, to establish a perpetual auction of taxations where colony should bid against colony, all of them uninformed what ransom would redeem their lives; and thus to extort from us, at the point of the bayonet, the unknown sums that should be sufficient to gratify, if possible to gratify, ministerial rapacity, with the miserable indulgence left to us of raising, in our own mode, the prescribed tribute. What terms more rigid and humiliating could have been dictated by remorseless victors to conquered enemies? In our circumstances to accept them, would be to deserve them.

Soon after intelligence of these proceedings arrived on this continent, general Gage, who in the course of the last year had taken possession of the town of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, and still occupied it as a garrison, on the 19th day of April, sent out from that place a large detachment of his army, who made an unprovoked assault on the inhabitants of the said province, at the town of Lexington, as appears by the affidavits of a great number of persons, some of whom were officers and soldiers of that detachment, murdered eight of the inhabitants, and wounded many others. From thence the troops proceeded in warlike array to the town of Concord, where they set upon another party of the inhabitants of the same province, killing several and wounding more, until compelled to retreat by the country people suddenly assembled to repel this cruel aggression. Hostilities, thus commenced by the British troops, have been since prosecuted by them without regard to faith or reputation.—The inhabitants of Boston being confined within that town by the general their governor, and having, in order to procure their dismissal, entered into a treaty with him, it was stipulated that the said inhabitants having deposited their arms with their own magistrates, should have liberty to depart, taking with them their other effects. They accordingly delivered up their arms, but in open violation of honor, in defiance of the obligation of treaties, which even savage nations esteemed sacred, the governor ordered the arms deposited as aforesaid, that they might be preserved for their owners, to be seized by a body of soldiers; detained the greatest part of the inhabitants in the town, and compelled the few who were permitted to retire, to leave their most valuable effects behind.

By this perfidy wives are separated from their husbands, children from their parents, the aged and the sick from their relations and friends, who wish to attend and comfort them; and those who have been used to live in plenty and even elegance, are reduced to deplorable distress.

The general, further emulating his ministerial masters, by a proclamation bearing date on the 12th day of June, after venting the grossest falsehoods and calumnies against the good people of these colonies, proceeds to "declare them" all, either by name or description, to be rebels and traitors, to supersede the

“course of the common law, and instead thereof to publish and order the use and exercise of the law martial.”—His troops have butchered our countrymen, have wantonly burnt Charlestown, besides a considerable number of houses in other places; our ships and vessels are seized; the necessary supplies of provisions are intercepted, and he is exerting his utmost power to spread destruction and devastation around him.

We have received certain intelligence that general Carleton, the governor of Canada, is instigating the people of that province and the Indians to fall upon us; and we have but too much reason to apprehend, that schemes have been formed to excite domestic enemies against us. In brief, a part of these colonies now feel, and all of them are sure of feeling, as far as the vengeance of administration can inflict them, the complicated calamities of fire, sword, and famine. We are reduced to the alternative of chusing an unconditional submission to the tyranny of irritated ministers, or resistance by force.—The latter is our choice.—We have counted the cost of this contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery.—Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them, if we basely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

Our cause is just. Our union is perfect. Our internal resources are great, and, if necessary, foreign assistance is undoubtedly attainable. We gratefully acknowledge, as signal instances of the Divine favor towards us, that his Providence would not permit us to be called into this severe controversy, until we were grown up to our present strength, had been previously exercised in warlike operation, and possessed of the means of defending ourselves. With hearts fortified with these animating reflections, we most solemnly, before God and the world, *declare*, that, exerting the utmost energy of those powers, which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed upon us, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to assume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmness and perseverance, employ for the preservation of our liberties; being with one mind resolved to die freemen rather than live slaves.

Lest this declaration should disquiet the minds of our friends and fellow-subjects in any part of the empire, we assure them that we mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, and which we sincerely wish to see restored.—Necessity has not yet driven us into that desperate measure, or induced us to excite any other nation to war against them.—We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separating from Great-Britain, and establishing independent states. We fight not for glory or for conquest. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable spectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without any imputation or even suspicion of offence. They boast of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death.

In our own native land, in defence of the freedom that is our birth-right, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it—for the protection of our property, acquired solely by the honest industry of our fore-fathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before.

With an humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the Universe, we most devoutly implore his divine goodness to protect us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms, and thereby to relieve the empire from the calamities of civil war.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That a letter be prepared to the lord mayor, aldermen, and livery of the city of London; expressing the thanks of this Con-

gress, for their virtuous and spirited opposition to the oppressive and ruinous system of colony administration adopted by the British ministry.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to draught an address to the people of Great-Britain, do prepare this.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

**FRIDAY, July 7, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The committee to whom the address to the people of Great-Britain, was re-committed, brought in the same, which being again read and debated, the farther consideration thereof was deferred till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

**SATURDAY, July 8, 1775.**

Met according to adjournment.

The petition to the king being engrossed, was compared at the table, and signed by the members present.

To the king's most excellent majesty :

**MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,**

We, your majesty's faithful subjects of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South Carolina, in behalf of ourselves, and the inhabitants of these colonies, who have deputed us to represent them in general Congress, entreat your majesty's gracious attention to this our humble petition.

The union between our mother country and these colonies, and the energy of mild and just government, produced benefits so remarkably important, and afforded such an assurance of their permanency and increase, that the wonder and envy of other nations were excited, while they beheld Great-Britain rising to a power the most extraordinary the world had ever known.

Her rivals, observing that there was no probability of this happy connexion being broken by civil dissensions, and apprehending its future effects, if left any longer undisturbed, resolved to prevent her receiving such continual and formidable accessions of wealth and strength, by checking the growth of those settlements from which they were to be derived.

In the prosecution of this attempt, events so unfavorable to the design took place, that every friend to the interest of Great-Britain and these colonies, entertained pleasing and reasonable expectations of seeing an additional force and exertion immediately given to the operations of the union hitherto experienced, by an enlargement of the dominions of the crown, and the removal of ancient and warlike enemies to a greater distance.

At the conclusion, therefore, of the late war, the most glorious and advantageous that ever had been carried on by British arms, your loyal colonists having contributed to its success, by such repeated and strenuous exertions, as frequently procured them the distinguished approbation of your majesty, of the late king, and of parliament, doubted not but that they should be permitted, with the rest of the empire, to share in the blessings of peace, and the emoluments of victory and conquest.

While these recent and honorable acknowledgments of their merits remained on record in the journals and acts of that august legislature, the parliament, undefaced by the imputation or even the suspicion of any offence, they were alarmed by a new system of statutes and regulations adopted for the administration of the colonies, that filled their minds with the most painful fears and jealousies; and, to their inexpressible astonishment, perceived the danger of a foreign quarrel quickly succeeded by domestic danger, in their judgment, of a more dreadful kind.

Nor were these anxieties alleviated by any tendency in this system to promote the welfare of their mother country. For though its effects were more immediately felt by them, yet its influence appeared to be injurious to the commerce and prosperity of Great-Britain.

We shall decline the ungrateful task of describing the irksome variety of artifices, practised by many of your majesty's ministers, the delusive pretences, fruitless terrors, and unavailing severities, that have, from time to time, been dealt out by them, in their attempts to execute this impolitic plan, or of tracing, through a series of years past, the progress of the unhappy differences between Great-Britain and these colonies, that have flowed from this fatal source.

Your majesty's ministers, persevering in their measures, and proceeding to open hostilities for enforcing them, have compelled us to arm in our own defence, and have engaged us in a controversy so peculiarly abhorrent to the affections of your still faithful colonists, that when we consider whom we must oppose in this contest, and if it continues, what may be the consequences, our own particular misfortunes are accounted by us only as parts of our distress.

Knowing to what violent resentments and incurable animosities, civil discords are apt to exasperate and inflame the contending parties, we think ourselves required by indispensable obligations to Almighty God, to your majesty, to our fellow-subjects, and to ourselves, immediately to use all the means in our power, not incompatible with our safety, for stopping the further effusion of blood, and for averting the impending calamities that threaten the British empire.

Thus called upon to address your majesty on affairs of such moment to America, and probably to all your dominions, we are earnestly desirous of performing this office, with the utmost deference for your majesty; and we therefore pray, that your majesty's royal magnanimity and benevolence may make the most favourable constructions of our expressions on so uncommon an occasion. Could we represent in their full force, the sentiments that agitate the minds of us your dutiful subjects, we are persuaded your majesty would ascribe any seeming deviation from reverence in our language, and even in our conduct, not to any reprehensible intention, but to the impossibility of reconciling the usual appearances of respect, with a just attention to our own preservation against those artful and cruel enemies, who abuse your royal confidence and authority, for the purpose of effecting our destruction.

Attached to your majesty's person, family, and government, with all devotion that principle and affection can inspire, connected with Great-Britain by the strongest ties that can unite societies, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, we solemnly assure your majesty, that we not only most ardently desire the former harmony between her and these colonies may be restored, but that a concord may be established between them upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations in both countries, and to transmit your majesty's name to posterity, adorned with that signal and lasting glory, that has attended the memory of those illustrious personages, whose virtues and abilities have extricated states from dangerous convulsions, and, by securing happiness to others, have erected the most noble and durable monuments to their own fame.

We beg leave further to assure your majesty, that notwithstanding the sufferings of your loyal colonists, during the course of this present controversy, our breasts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from which we derive our origin, to request such a reconciliation as might in any manner be inconsistent with her dignity or her welfare. These, related as we are to her, honor and duty, as well as inclination, induce us to support and advance; and the apprehensions that now oppress our hearts with unspeakable grief, being once

removed, your majesty will find your faithful subjects on this continent ready and willing at all times, as they have ever been, with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interests of your majesty, and of our mother country.

We, therefore, beseech your majesty, that your royal authority and influence may be graciously interposed to procure us relief from our afflicting fears and jealousies, occasioned by the system before mentioned, and to settle peace through every part of our dominions, with all humility submitting to your majesty's wise consideration whether it may not be expedient for facilitating those important purposes, that your majesty be pleased to direct some mode, by which the united applications of your faithful colonists to the throne, in pursuance of their common councils, may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; and that, in the mean time, measures may be taken for preventing the further destruction of the lives of your majesty's subjects; and that such statutes as more immediately distress any of your majesty's colonies may be repealed.

For such arrangements as your majesty's wisdom can form, for collecting the united sense of your American people, we are convinced your majesty would receive such satisfactory proofs of the disposition of the colonists towards their sovereign and parent state, that the wished for opportunity would soon be restored to them, of evincing the sincerity of their professions, by every testimony of devotion becoming the most dutiful subjects, and the most affectionate colonists.

That your majesty may enjoy a long and prosperous reign, and that your descendants may govern your dominions with honor to themselves and happiness to their subjects, is our sincere prayer.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the lord mayor, &c. reported the same, which was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the same committee prepare a letter to Richard Penn, esq. and the colony agents by name in England.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

The Twelve United Colonies, by their delegates in Congress, to the inhabitants of Great-Britain.  
FRIENDS, COUNTRYMEN, AND BRETHREN!

By these, and by every other appellation that may designate the ties, which bind us to each other, we entreat your serious attention to this our second attempt to prevent their dissolution. Remembrance of former friendships, pride in the glorious achievements of our common ancestors, and affection for the heirs of their virtues, have hitherto preserved our mutual connexion; but when that friendship is violated by the grossest injuries; when the pride of ancestry becomes our reproach, and we are no otherwise allied than as tyrants and slaves; when reduced to the melancholy alternative of renouncing your favour or our freedom; can we hesitate about the choice? Let the spirit of Britain determine.

In a former address we asserted our rights, and stated the injuries we had then received. We hoped, that the mention of our wrongs would have roused that honest indignation which has slept too long for your honor, or the welfare of the empire. But we have not been permitted to entertain this pleasing expectation. Every day brought an accumulation of injuries, and the invention of the ministry has been constantly exercised, in adding to the calamities of your American brethren.

After the most valuable right of legislation was infringed; when the power assumed by your parliament, in which we are not represented, and from our local and other circumstances cannot properly be represented, rendered our

property precarious; after being denied that mode of trial, to which we have long been indebted for the safety of our persons, and the preservation of our liberties; after being in many instances divested of those laws, which were transmitted to us by our common ancestors, and subjected to an arbitrary code, compiled under the auspices of Roman tyrants; after those charters, which encouraged our predecessors to brave death and danger in every shape, on unknown seas, in deserts unexplored, amidst barbarous and inhospitable nations, were annulled; when, without the form of trial, without a public accusation, whole colonies were condemned, their trade destroyed, their inhabitants impoverished; when soldiers were encouraged to embrace their hands in the blood of Americans, by offers of impunity; when new modes of trial were instituted for the ruin of the accused, where the charge carried with it the horrors of conviction; when a despotic government was established in a neighboring province, and its limits extended to every of our frontiers; we little imagined that any thing could be added to this black catalogue of unprovoked injuries: but we have unhappily been deceived, and the late measures of the British ministry fully convince us, that their object is the reduction of these colonies to slavery and ruin.

To confirm this assertion, let us recal your attention to the affairs of America, since our last address. Let us combat the calumnies of our enemies; and let us warn you of the dangers that threaten you in our destruction. Many of your fellow-subjects, whose situation deprived them of other support, drew their maintenance from the sea; but the deprivation of our liberty being insufficient to satisfy the resentment of our enemies, the horrors of famine were superadded, and a British parliament, who, in better times, were the protectors of innocence and the patrons of humanity, have, without distinction of age or sex, robbed thousands of the food which they were accustomed to draw from that inexhaustible source, placed in their neighborhood by the benevolent Creator.

Another act of your legislature shuts our ports, and prohibits our trade with any but those states from whom the great law of self-preservation renders it absolutely necessary we should at present withhold our commerce. But this act (whatever may have been its design) we consider rather as injurious to your opulence than our interest. All our commerce terminates with you; and the wealth we procure from other nations, is soon exchanged for your superfluities. Our remittances must then cease with our trade; and our refinements with our affluence. We trust, however, that laws which deprive us of every blessing but a soil that teems with the necessaries of life, and that liberty which renders the enjoyment of them secure, will not relax our vigor in their defence.

We might here observe on the cruelty and inconsistency of those, who, while they publicly brand us with reproachful and unworthy epithets, endeavor to deprive us of the means of defence, by their interposition with foreign powers, and to deliver us to the lawless ravages of a merciless soldiery. But happily we are not without resources; and though the timid and humiliating applications of a British ministry should prevail with foreign nations, yet industry, prompted by necessity, will not leave us without the necessary supplies.

We could wish to go no further, and, not to wound the ear of humanity, leave untold those rigorous acts of oppression, which are daily exercised in the town of Boston, did we not hope, that by disclaiming their deeds and punishing the perpetrators, you would shortly vindicate the honor of the British name, and re-establish the violated laws of justice.

That once populous, flourishing and commercial town is now garrisoned by an army sent not to protect, but to enslave its inhabitants. The civil government is overturned, and a military despotism erected upon its ruins. Without law, without right, powers are assumed unknown to the constitution.

Private property is unjustly invaded. The inhabitants, daily subjected to the licentiousness of the soldiery, are forbid to remove in defiance of their natural rights, in violation of the most solemn compacts. Or if, after long and wearisome solicitation, a pass is procured, their effects are detained, and even those who are most favored, have no alternative but poverty or slavery. The distress of many thousand people, wantonly deprived of the necessaries of life, is a subject, on which we would not wish to enlarge.

Yet, we cannot but observe, that a British fleet (unjustified even by acts of your legislature) are daily employed in ruining our commerce, seizing our ships, and depriving whole communities of their daily bread. Nor will a regard for your honor permit us to be silent, while British troops sully your glory, by actions, which the most inveterate enmity will not palliate among civilized nations, the wanton and unnecessary destruction of Charlestown, a large, ancient, and once populous town, just before deserted by its inhabitants, who had fled to avoid the fury of your soldiery.

If you still retain those sentiments of compassion, by which Britons have ever been distinguished, if the humanity, which tempered the valor of our common ancestors, has not degenerated into cruelty, you will lament the miseries of their descendants.

To what are we to attribute this treatment? If to any secret principle of the constitution, let it be mentioned; let us learn, that the government, we have long revered, is not without its defects, and that while it gives freedom to a part, it necessarily enslaves the remainder of the empire. If such a principle exists, why for ages has it ceased to operate? Why at this time is it called into action? Can no reason be assigned for this conduct? Or must it be resolved into the wanton exercise of arbitrary power? And shall the descendants of Britons tamely submit to this?—No, sirs! We never will, while we revere the memory of our gallant and virtuous ancestors, we never can surrender those glorious privileges, for which they fought, bled, and conquered. Admit that your fleets could destroy our towns, and ravage our sea-coasts; these are inconsiderable objects, things of no moment to men, whose bosoms glow with the ardor of liberty. We can retire beyond the reach of your navy, and, without any sensible diminution of the necessaries of life, enjoy a luxury, which from that period you will want—the luxury of being free.

We know the force of your arms, and was it called forth in the cause of justice and your country, we might dread the exertion: but will Britons fight under the banners of tyranny? Will they counteract the labours, and disgrace the victories of their ancestors? Will they forge chains for their posterity? If they descend to this unworthy task, will their swords retain their edge, their arms their accustomed vigour? Britons can never become the instruments of oppression, till they lose the spirit of freedom, by which alone they are invincible.

Our enemies charge us with sedition. In what does it consist? In our refusal to submit to unwarrantable acts of injustice and cruelty? If so, shew us a period in your history, in which you have not been equally seditious.

We are accused of aiming at independence; but how is this accusation supported? By the allegations of your ministers, not by our actions. Abused, insulted, and contemned, what steps have we pursued to obtain redress? We have carried our dutiful petitions to the throne. We have applied to your justice for relief. We have retrenched our luxury, and withheld our trade.

The advantages of our commerce were designed as a compensation for your protection: When you ceased to protect, for what were we to compensate?

What has been the success of our endeavours? The clemency of our sovereign is unhappily diverted; our petitions are treated with indignity; our prayers answered by insults. Our application to you remains unnoticed, and leaves us the melancholy apprehension of your wanting either the will, or the power, to assist us.

Even under these circumstances, what measures have we taken that betray a desire of independence? Have we called in the aid of those foreign powers, who are the rivals of your grandeur? When your troops were few and defenceless, did we take advantage of their distress and expel them our towns? Or have we permitted them to fortify, to receive new aid, and to acquire additional strength?

Let not your enemies and ours persuade you, that in this we were influenced by fear or any other unworthy motive. The lives of Britons are still dear to us. They are the children of our parents, and an uninterrupted intercourse of mutual benefits had knit the bonds of friendship. When hostilities were commenced, when on a late occasion we were wantonly attacked by your troops, though we repelled their assaults and returned their blows, yet we lamented the wounds they obliged us to give; nor have we yet learned to rejoice at a victory over Englishmen.

As we wish not to colour our actions, or disguise our thoughts, we shall, in the simple language of truth, avow the measures we have pursued, the motives upon which we have acted, and our future designs.

When our late petition to the throne produced no other effect than fresh injuries, and votes of your legislature, calculated to justify every severity; when your fleets and your armies were prepared to wrest from us our property, to rob us of our liberties or our lives; when the hostile attempts of general Gage evinced his designs, we levied armies for our security and defence. When the powers vested in the governor of Canada, gave us reason to apprehend danger from that quarter; and we had frequent intimations, that a cruel and savage enemy was to be let loose upon the defenceless inhabitants of our frontiers; we took such measures as prudence dictated, as necessity will justify. We possessed ourselves of Crown-Point and Ticonderoga. Yet give us leave most solemnly to assure you, that we have not yet lost sight of the object we have ever had in view, a reconciliation with you on constitutional principles, and a restoration of that friendly intercourse, which, to the advantage of both, we till lately maintained.

The inhabitants of this country apply themselves chiefly to agriculture and commerce. As their fashions and manners are similar to yours, your markets must afford them the conveniencies and luxuries, for which they exchange the produce of their labours. The wealth of this extended continent centres with you; and our trade is so regulated as to be subservient only to your interest. You are too reasonable to expect, that by taxes (in addition to this) we should contribute to your expense; to believe, after diverting the fountain, that the streams can flow with unabated force.

It has been said, that we refuse to submit to the restrictions on our commerce. From whence is this inference drawn? Not from our words, we have repeatedly declared the contrary; and we again profess our submission to the several acts of trade and navigation, passed before the year 1763, trusting, nevertheless, in the equity and justice of parliament, that such of them as, upon cool and impartial consideration, shall appear to have imposed unnecessary or grievous restrictions, will, at some happier period, be repealed or altered. And we cheerfully consent to the operation of such acts of the British parliament, as shall be restrained to the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of the whole empire to the mother country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members; excluding every idea of taxation internal or external, for raising a revenue on the subjects in America, without their consent.

It is alleged that we contribute nothing to the common defence. To this we answer, that the advantages which Great-Britain receives from the monopoly of our trade, far exceed our proportion of the expense necessary for that purpose. But should these advantages be inadequate thereto, let the restric-

tions on our trade be removed, and we will cheerfully contribute such proportion when constitutionally required.

It is a fundamental principle of the British constitution, that every man should have at least a representative share in the formation of those laws, by which he is bound. Were it otherwise, the regulation of our internal police by a British parliament, who are and ever will be acquainted with our local circumstances, must be always inconvenient, and frequently oppressive, working our wrong, without yielding any possible advantage to you.

A plan of accommodation (as it has been absurdly called) has been proposed by your ministers to our respective assemblies. Were this proposal free from every other objection, but that which arises from the time of the offer, it would not be unexceptionable. Can men deliberate with the bayonet at their breast? Can they treat with freedom, while their towns are sacked; when daily instances of injustice and oppression disturb the slower operations of reason?

If this proposal is really such as you would offer and we accept, why was it delayed till the nation was put to useless expense, and we were reduced to our present melancholy situation? If it holds forth nothing, why was it proposed? Unless indeed to deceive you into a belief, that we were unwilling to listen to any terms of accommodation. But what is submitted to our consideration? We contend for the disposal of our property. We are told that our demand is unreasonable, that our assemblies may indeed collect our money, but that they must at the same time offer, not what your exigencies or ours may require, but so much as shall be deemed sufficient to satisfy the desires of a minister and enable him to provide for favorites and dependants. A recurrence to your own treasury will convince you how little of the money already extorted from us has been applied to the relief of your burthens. To suppose that we would thus grasp the shadow and give up the substance, is adding insult to injuries.

We have nevertheless again presented an humble and dutiful petition to our sovereign, and to remove every imputation of obstinacy, have requested his majesty to direct some mode, by which the united applications of his faithful colonists may be improved into happy and permanent reconciliation. We are willing to treat on such terms as can alone render an accommodation lasting, and we flatter ourselves that our pacific endeavors will be attended with a removal of ministerial troops, and a repeal of those laws, of the operation of which we complain, on the one part, and a disbanding of our army, and a dissolution of our commercial associations, on the other.

Yet conclude not from this that we propose to surrender our property into the hands of your ministry, or vest your parliament with a power which may terminate in our destruction. The great bulwarks of our constitution, we have desired to maintain by every temperate, by every peaceable means; but your ministers (equal foes to British and American freedom) have added to their former oppressions an attempt to reduce us by the sword to a base and abject submission. On the sword, therefore, we are compelled to rely for protection. Should victory declare in your favor, yet men trained to arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap or easy conquest. Of this at least we are assured, that our struggle will be glorious, our success certain; since even in death we shall find that freedom which in life you forbid us to enjoy.

Let us now ask what advantages are to attend our reduction? the trade of a ruined and desolate country is always inconsiderable, its revenue trifling; the expense of subjecting and retaining it in subjection certain and inevitable. What then remains but the gratification of an ill-judged pride, or the hope of rendering us subservient to designs on your liberty.

Soldiers who have sheathed their swords in the bowels of their American brethren, will not draw them with more reluctance against you. When too

late you may lament the loss of that freedom, which we exhort you, while still in your power, to preserve.

On the other hand, should you prove unsuccessful; should that connexion, which we most ardently wish to maintain, be dissolved; should your ministers exhaust your treasures and waste the blood of your countrymen in vain attempts on our liberty; do they not deliver you, weak and defenceless, to your natural enemies?

Since then your liberty must be the price of your victories; your ruin, of your defeat: What blind fatality can urge you to a pursuit destructive of all that Britons hold dear?

If you have no regard to the connexion that has for ages subsisted between us; if you have forgot the wounds we have received fighting by your side for the extension of the empire; if our commerce is not an object below your consideration; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts; still motives are not wanting to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued; your wealth, your honor, your liberty are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions, to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate councils should precipitate the destruction of an empire, which has been the envy and admiration of ages, and call God to witness! that we would part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your heads and ours; ere this reaches you, it may probably burst upon us; let us then (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears; let us entreat heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren and countrymen, on the other side of the Atlantic.

*Ordered*, That the above address be immediately printed, and sent by Mr. Penn to England.

The letter to the lord mayor, aldermen and livery of London, being again read and debated, was agreed to as follows:

MY LORD,

Permit the delegates of the people of twelve ancient colonies, to pay your lordship, and the very respectable body of which you are head, the just tribute of gratitude and thanks, for the virtuous and unsolicited resentment you have shewn to the violated rights of a free people. The city of London, my lord, having in all ages, approved itself the patron of liberty, and the support of just government, against lawless tyranny and oppression, cannot fail to make us deeply sensible of the powerful aid, our cause must receive from such advocates. A cause, my lord, worthy the support of the first city in the world, as it involves the fate of a great continent, and threatens to shake the foundations of a flourishing, and, until lately, a happy empire.

North-America, my lord, wishes most ardently for a lasting connexion with Great-Britain on terms of just and equal liberty; less than which generous minds will not offer, nor brave and free ones be willing to receive.

A cruel war has at length been opened against us, and whilst we prepare to defend ourselves like the descendants of Britons, we still hope that the mediation of wise and good citizens, will at length prevail over despotism, and restore harmony and peace, on permanent principles, to an oppressed and divided empire.

We have the honor to be, my lord,

With great esteem, your lordship's

Faithful friends and fellow-subjects.

*Ordered*, That the above letter be transcribed, then signed by the president.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to Mr. Penn and the colony agents, reported a draught, which was read and approved as follows:

GENTLEMEN,

The perseverance of the British ministry in their unjust and cruel system of colony administration, has occasioned the meeting of another Congress.

We have again appealed to the justice of our sovereign for protection against the destruction which his ministers meditate for his American subjects. This petition to his majesty you will please, gentlemen, to present to the king with all convenient expedition, after which we desire it may be given to the public. We likewise send you our second application to the equity and interest of our fellow-subjects in Great-Britain, and also a declaration setting forth the causes of our taking up arms: Both which we wish may be immediately put to press, and communicated as universally as possible.

The Congress entertain the highest sense of the wise and worthy interposition of the lord mayor and livery of London, in favour of injured America. They have expressed this, their sense, in a letter to his lordship and the livery, which we desire may be presented in the manner most agreeable to that respectable body.

You will oblige us, gentlemen, by given the most early information to the Congress, and to the speakers of our respective assemblies, of your proceeding in this business, and such further intelligence as you may judge to be of importance to America in this great contest.

We are, with great regard, gentlemen, &c.

*Ordered*, That the above be fairly transcribed, and then signed by the president, and by him sent under cover, together with the petition to the king, and address to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, and the letter to the lord mayor, &c. to Richard Penn, esq. and that the president request Mr. Penn, in behalf of the Congress, to join with the colony agents in presenting the petition to the king.

Adjourned till Monday at nine o'clock.

#### MONDAY, *July 10, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

Information being given, that there was a gentleman in town well acquainted with the state and disposition of the Indians, a motion was made for introducing him, and he was accordingly introduced and examined.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for putting the militia in a proper state for the defence of America, brought in their report, which was read, and after debate referred for further consideration.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

#### TUESDAY, *July 11, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The report of the committee on Indian affairs was taken up and read, and, after some debate, the same was deferred till to-morrow.

On information that there were two companies of riflemen raised in Lancaster instead of one,

*Resolved*, That both be taken into the continental service.

"An address of deputies from the different parishes of the islands of Bermuda," to the Congress, was presented and read.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

#### WEDNESDAY, *July 12, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

A gentleman from the province of Quebec was introduced and examined.

Letters from governor Cooke and general Ward were read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on Indian affairs, and the same being gone through was agreed to as follows:

That the securing and preserving the friendship of the Indian nations, appears to be a subject of the utmost moment to these colonies.

That there is too much reason to apprehend that administration will spare no pains to excite the several nations of Indians to take up arms against these colonies; and it becomes us to be very active and vigilant in exerting every prudent means to strengthen and confirm the friendly disposition towards these colonies, which has long prevailed among the northern tribes, and which has been lately manifested by some of those to the southward.

As the Indians depend on the colonists for arms, ammunition, and clothing, which are become necessary to their subsistence, that commissioners be appointed by this Congress, to superintend Indian affairs in behalf of these colonies.

That there be three departments of Indians, the northern, middle and southern. The northern to extend so far south as to include the whole of the Indians known by the name of the Six Nations, and all the Indians northward of those nations. The southern department to extend so far north as to include the Cherokees, and all the Indians that may be to the southward of them. The middle to contain the Indian nations that lie between the other two departments.

That five commissioners be appointed for the southern department.

That for each of the other two departments, there be appointed three commissioners.

That the commissioners have power to treat with the Indians in their respective departments, in the name, and on behalf of the United Colonies, in order to preserve peace and friendship with the said Indians, and to prevent their taking any part in the present commotions.

That the commissioners for the southern department, receive from the continental treasury the sum of ten thousand dollars; the commissioners for the middle and northern department, the sum of six thousand six hundred and sixty-six and two-thirds, for each of their respective departments, for defraying the expense of treaties and presents to the Indians.

That the commissioners respectively have power to take to their assistance gentlemen of influence among the Indians, in whom they can confide, and to appoint agents, residing near or among the Indians, to watch the conduct of the superintendents and their emisaries.

That in case the commissioners for the respective districts, or any one of them in either district, shall have satisfactory proof, that the king's superintendents, their deputies or agents, or any other person whatsoever, are active in stirring up or inciting the Indians or any of them, to become inimical to the American colonies, such commissioner or commissioners, ought to cause such superintendents or other offender, to be seized and kept in safe custody until order shall be taken therein by a majority of the commissioners of the districts where such seizure is made, or by the Continental Congress, or a committee of said Congress, to whom such seizure, with the causes of it, shall, as soon as possible after, be made known.

That the commissioners shall exhibit fair accounts of the expenditure of all moneys by them respectively to be received for the purposes aforesaid, to every succeeding Continental Congress, or committee of Congress, together with a general state of Indian affairs, in their several departments; in order that the colonies may be informed from time to time, of every such matter as may concern them to know and avail themselves of, for the benefit of the common cause.

That as there is a seminary for the instruction of Indian youth, which has been established under the care of doctor Wheelock, on Connecticut river; and as there are nine or ten Indian youths at that school, chiefly from the tribes residing in Quebec; and as for want of a proper fund, there is danger that

these youths may be sent back to their friends, which will probably excite jealousy and distrust, and be attended with bad consequences, the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department, be authorized to receive out of the continental treasury, a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, to be applied by them for the support of said Indian youths.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these colonies.

The following were chosen: Mr. Jay, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Gadsden, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lee.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, July 13, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare proper talks to the Indians, reported the same, which was agreed to as follows:

A Speech to the Six Confederate Nations, Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senekas, from the Twelve United Colonies, convened in Council at Philadelphia.

**BROTHERS, SACHEMS, AND WARRIORS,**

We, the delegates from the twelve United Provinces, viz. New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, now sitting in general Congress at Philadelphia, send this talk to you our brothers. We are sixty-five in number, chosen and appointed by the people throughout all these provinces and colonies, to meet and sit together in one great council, to consult together for the common good of the land, and speak and act for them.

Brothers, in our consultation we have judged it proper and necessary to send you this talk, as we are upon the same island, that you may be informed of the reasons of this great council, the situation of our civil constitution, and our disposition towards you our Indian brothers of the Six Nations and their allies.

*(Three Strings, or a small Belt.)*

**BROTHERS AND FRIENDS, NOW ATTEND,**

When our fathers crossed the great water and came over to this land, the king of England gave them a talk: assuring them that they and their children should be his children, and that if they would leave their native country and make settlements, and live here, and buy, and sell, and trade with their brethren beyond the water, they should still keep hold of the same covenant chain and enjoy peace.—And it was covenanted, that the fields, houses, goods and possessions which our fathers should acquire, should remain to them as their own, and be their children's forever, and at their sole disposal.

Trusting that this covenant should never be broken, our fathers came a great distance beyond the great water, laid out their money here, built houses, cleared fields, raised crops, and through their own labour and industry grew tall and strong.

They have bought, sold and traded with England according to agreement, sending to them such things as they wanted, and taking in exchange such things as were wanted here.

The king of England and his people kept the way open for more than one hundred years, and by our trade became richer, and by a union with us, greater and stronger than the other kings and people who live beyond the water.

All this time they lived in great friendship with us, and we with them; for we are brothers—one blood.

Whenever they were struck, we instantly felt as though the blow had been given to us—their enemies were our enemies.

Whenever they went to war, we sent our men to stand by their side and fight for them, and our money to help them and make them strong.

They thanked us for our love, and sent us good talks, and renewed their promise to be one people forever.

**BROTHERS AND FRIENDS, OPEN A KIND EAR!**

We will now tell you of the quarrel betwixt the counsellors of king George and the inhabitants and colonies of America.

Many of his counsellors are proud and wicked men.—They persuade the king to break the covenant chain, and not to send us any more good talks. A considerable number have prevailed upon him to enter into a new covenant against us, and have torn asunder and cast behind their backs the good old covenant which their ancestors and ours entered into, and took strong hold of.

They now tell us they will slip their hand into our pocket without asking, as though it were their own; and at their pleasure they will take from us our charters or written civil constitution, which we love as our lives—also our plantations, our houses and goods whenever they please, without asking our leave.—That our vessels may go to this island in the sea, but to this or that particular island we shall not trade any more.—And in case of our non-compliance with these new orders, they shut up our harbours.

Brothers, this is our present situation—thus have many of the king's counsellors and servants dealt with us.—If we submit, or comply with their demands, you can easily perceive to what state we will be reduced.—If our people labour on the field, they will not know who shall enjoy the crop.—If they hunt in the woods, it will be uncertain who shall taste of the meat or have the skins.—If they build houses, they will not know whether they may sit round the fire, with their wives and children. They cannot be sure whether they shall be permitted to eat, drink, and wear the fruits of their own labour and industry.

**BROTHERS AND FRIENDS OF THE SIX NATIONS, ATTEND,**

We upon this island have often spoke and intreated the king and his servants the counsellors, that peace and harmony might still continue between us—that we cannot part with or lose our hold of the old covenant chain which united our fathers and theirs—that we want to brighten this chain—and keep the way open as our fathers did; that we want to live with them as brothers, labour, trade, travel abroad, eat and drink in peace. We have often asked them to love us and live in such friendship with us as their fathers did with ours.

We told them again that we judged we were exceedingly injured, that they might as well kill us, as take away our property and the necessaries of life.—We have asked why they treat us thus?—What has become of our repeated addresses and supplications to them? Who hath shut the ears of the king to the cries of his children in America? No soft answer—no pleasant voice from beyond the water has yet sounded in our ears.

Brothers, thus stands the matter betwixt old England and America. You Indians know how things are proportioned in a family—between the father and the son—the child carries a little pack—England we regard as the father—this island may be compared to the son.

The father has a numerous family—both at home and upon this island.—He appoints a great number of servants to assist him in the government of his family. In process of time, some of his servants grow proud and ill-natured—they were displeased to see the boy so alert and walk so nimbly with his pack. They tell the father, and advise him to enlarge the child's pack—they prevail—the pack is increased—the child takes it up again—as he thought it might be the father's pleasure—speaks but few words—those very small—for he was both to offend the father. Those proud and wicked servants finding they had prevailed, laughed to see the boy sweat and stagger under his increased load. By and by, they apply to the father to double the boy's pack, because they heard him complain—and without any reason said they—he is a cross child—correct

him if he complains any more.—The boy intreats the father—addresses the great servants in a decent manner, that the pack might be lightened—he could not go any farther—humbly asks, if the old fathers, in any of their records, had described such a pack for the child—after all the tears and entreaties of the child, the pack is redoubled—the child stands a little, while staggering under the weight—ready to fall every moment. However he entreats the father once more, though so faint he could only lisp out his last humble supplication—waits a while—no voice returns. The child concludes the father could not hear—those proud servants had intercepted his supplications, or stopped the ears of the father. He therefore gives one struggle and throws off the pack, and says he cannot take it up again—such a weight would crush him down and kill him—and he can but die if he refuses.

Upon this, those servants are very wroth—and tell the father many false stories respecting the child—they bring a great cudgel to the father, asking him to take it in his hand and strike the child.

This may serve to illustrate the present condition of the king's American subjects or children.

Amidst these oppressions we now and then hear a mollifying and reviving voice from some of the king's wise counsellors, who are our friends and feel for our distresses, when they heard our complaints and our cries, they applied to the king, also told those wicked servants, that this child in America was not a cross boy, it had sufficient reason for crying, and if the cause of its complaint was neglected, it would soon assume the voice of a man, plead for justice like a man, and defend its rights and support the old covenant chain of the fathers.

**BROTHERS, LISTEN!**

Notwithstanding all our entreaties, we have but little hope the king will send us any more good talks, by reason of his evil counsellors; they have persuaded him to send an army of soldiers and many ships of war, to rob and destroy us. They have shut up many of our harbors, seized and taken into possession many of our vessels: the soldiers have struck the blow, killed some of our people, the blood now runs of the American children: They have also burned our houses and towns, and taken much of our goods.

Brothers! We are now necessitated to rise, and forced to fight, or give up our civil constitution, run away and leave our farms and houses behind us. This must not be. Since the king's wicked counsellors will not open their ears, and consider our just complaints, and the cause of our weeping, and hath given the blow, we are determined to drive away the king's soldiers, and to kill and destroy all those wicked men we find in arms against the peace of the twelve United Colonies upon this island. We think our cause is just; therefore hope God will be on our side. We do not take up the hatchet and struggle for honor and conquest; but to maintain our civil constitution and religious privileges, the very same for which our forefathers left their native land and came to this country.

**BROTHERS AND FRIENDS!**

We desire you will hear and receive what we have now told you, and that you will open a good ear and listen to what we are now going to say. This is a family quarrel between us and Old England. You Indians are not concerned in it. We don't wish you to take up the hatchet against the king's troops. We desire you to remain at home, and not join on either side, but keep the hatchet buried deep. In the name and behalf of all our people, we ask and desire you to love peace and maintain it, and to love and sympathise with us in our troubles; that the path may be kept open with all our people and yours, to pass and repass, without molestation.

Brothers! we live upon the same ground with you. The same island is our common birth-place. We desire to sit down under the same tree of peace with

you: let us water its roots and cherish its growth, till the large leaves and flourishing branches shall extend to the setting sun, and reach the skies.

**BROTHERS, OBSERVE WELL!**

What is it we have asked of you? Nothing but peace, notwithstanding our present disturbed situation—and if application should be made to you by any of the king's unwise and wicked ministers to join on their side, we only advise you to deliberate, with great caution, and in your wisdom look forward to the consequences of a compliance. For, if the king's troops take away our property, and destroy us who are of the same blood with themselves, what can you, who are Indians, expect from them afterwards?

Therefore, we say, brothers, take care—hold fast to your covenant chain. You now know our disposition towards you, the Six Nations of Indians, and your allies. Let this our good talk remain at Onondaga, your central council house. We depend upon you to send and acquaint your allies to the northward, the seven tribes on the river St. Lawrence, that you have this talk of ours at the great council fire of the Six Nations. And when they return, we invite your great men to come and converse farther with us at Albany, where we intend to re-kindle the council fire, which your and our ancestors sat round in great friendship.

Brothers and Friends!

We greet you all farewell.

*(The large belt of intelligence and declaration.)*

**BROTHERS!**

We have said we wish you Indians may continue in peace with one another, and with us the white people. Let us both be cautious in our behaviour towards each other at this critical state of affairs. This island now trembles, the wind whistles from almost every quarter—let us fortify our minds and shut our ears against false rumors—let us be cautious what we receive for truth, unless spoken by wise and good men. If any thing disagreeable should ever fall out between us, the twelve United Colonies, and you, the Six Nations, to wound our peace, let us immediately seek measures for healing the breach. From the present situation of our affairs, we judge it wise and expedient to kindle up a small council fire at Albany, where we may hear each other's voice, and disclose our minds more fully to each other.

*(A small belt.)*

**Ordered,** That a similar talk be prepared for the other Indian nations, preserving the tenor of the above, and altering it so as to suit the Indians in the several departments.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of commissioners for Indian affairs, and after some debate, agreed that the nomination of commissioners for the southern department be postponed till Tuesday next.

Mr. Franklin, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Wilson, were unanimously elected for the middle department.

The Congress then proceeded to elect the commissioners for the northern department, and the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: major-general Philip Schuyler, major Joseph Hawley, Mr. Turbot Francis, Mr. Oliver Wolcott, and Mr. Volkert P. Douw.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

**FRIDAY, July 14, 1775.**

**Met according to adjournment.**

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the militia, and after debate, the same was referred for farther consideration.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

SATURDAY, *July 15, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

On motion made, the Congress came to the following resolution :

Whereas, the government of Great-Britain hath prohibited the exportation of arms and ammunition to any of the plantations, and endeavored to prevent other nations from supplying us :

*Resolved*, That for the better furnishing these colonies with the necessary means of defending their rights, every vessel importing gun-powder, salt-petre, sulphur, provided they bring with the sulphur four times as much salt-petre, brass field-pieces, or good muskets fitted with bayonets, within nine months from the date of this resolution, shall be permitted to load and export the produce of these colonies, to the value of such powder and stores aforesaid, the non-exportation agreement notwithstanding; and it is recommended to the committees of the several provinces to inspect the military stores so imported, and to estimate a generous price for the same, according to their goodness, and permit the importer of such powder and other military stores aforesaid, to export the value thereof and no more, in produce of any kind.

Sundry intercepted letters were laid before the Congress and read.

The talk to the Stockbridge Indians was then taken up, and the same being debated, was agreed to.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Congress will, on Thursday next, attend divine service in a body, both morning and afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Dickinson, wait on Mr. Duche, and Dr. Allison, and request Mr. Duche to preach before the Congress on Thursday next, in the morning, and Dr. Allison in the afternoon.

Adjourned till Monday at eight o'clock.

MONDAY, *July 17, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from general Schuyler, being laid before Congress, was read, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That a commissary of stores and provisions be appointed for the New-York department, during the present campaign.

Walter Livingston, esq. chosen to that office.

*Resolved*, That a deputy quarter-master-general be appointed for the said department.

Donald Campbell, esq. elected to that office.

*Ordered*, That Mr. D. Campbell, have the rank of colonel in the army.

*Resolved*, That a deputy muster-master be appointed for the said department.

Gunning Bedford, esq. elected to that office.

*Resolved*, That the convention of New-York be desired to recommend to general Schuyler, a proper person for a deputy adjutant-general or brigade-major, for the army in the New-York department.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY, *July 18, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress again resumed the consideration of the report of the committee for putting the militia into a proper state for the defence of America, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of all the United English Colonies in North-America, that all able bodied effective men, between sixteen and fifty years of age in each colony, immediately form themselves into regular companies of militia, to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four serjeants, four corporals, one clerk, one drummer, one fifer, and about sixty-eight privates.

That the officers of each company be chosen by the respective companies.

That each soldier be furnished with a good musket, that will carry an ounce ball, with a bayonet, steel ramrod, worm, priming wire and brush fitted thereto, a cutting sword or tomahawk, a cartridge-box, that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, twelve flints and a knapsack.

That the companies be formed into regiments or battalions, officered with a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, two majors, an adjutant, or quarter-master.

That all officers above the rank of a captain, be appointed by the respective provincial assemblies or conventions, or in their recess, by the committees of safety appointed by said assemblies or conventions.

That all officers be commissioned by the provincial assemblies or conventions, or in their recess by the committees of safety appointed by said assemblies or conventions.

That all the militia take proper care to acquire military skill, and be well prepared for defence by being each man provided with one pound of good gun-powder, and four pounds of ball, fitted to his gun.

That one fourth part of the militia in every colony, be selected for minute men, of such persons as are willing to enter into this necessary service, formed into companies and battalions, and their officers chosen and commissioned as aforesaid, to be ready on the shortest notice, to march to any place where their assistance may be required, for the defence of their own or a neighboring colony; and as these minute men may eventually be called to action before the whole body of the militia are sufficiently trained, it is recommended that a more particular and diligent attention be paid to their instruction in military discipline.

That such of the minute men, as desire it, be relieved by new draughts as aforesaid, from the whole body of the militia, once in four months.

As there are some people, who, from religious principles, cannot bear arms in any case, this Congress intend no violence to their consciences, but earnestly recommend it to them, to contribute liberally in this time of universal calamity, to the relief of their distressed brethren in the several colonies, and to do all other services to their oppressed country, which they can consistently with their religious principles.

That it be recommended to the assemblies or conventions in the respective colonies to provide, as soon as possible, sufficient stores of ammunition for their colonies; also that they devise proper means for furnishing with arms, such effective men as are poor and unable to furnish themselves.

That it be recommended to each colony to appoint a committee of safety, to superintend and direct all matters necessary for the security and defence of their respective colonies, in the recess of their assemblies and conventions.

That each colony, at their own expense, make such provision by armed vessels or otherwise, as their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees of safety shall judge expedient and suitable to their circumstances and situations, for the protection of their harbours and navigation on their sea coasts, against all unlawful invasions, attacks, and depredations, from cutters and ships of war.

That it be recommended to the makers of arms for the use of the militia, that they make good substantial muskets, with barrels three feet and a half in length, that will carry an ounce ball, and fitted with a good bayonet and steel ram-rod, and that the making such arms be encouraged in these United Colonies.

Where in any colony a militia is already formed under regulations approved of by the convention of such colony, or by such assemblies as are annually elective, we refer to the discretion of such convention or assembly, either to adopt the foregoing regulations in the whole or in part, or to continue their former, as they, on consideration of all circumstances, shall think best.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, *July 19, 1775.*


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Met according to adjournment.

The president laid before the Congress a letter from the general, with sundry papers enclosed, which were read and considered : whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wilson apply to the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and request them to make diligent enquiry what quantity of duck, Russia sheeting, tow-cloth, ozanaburgs and ticklenburgs can be procured in this city, and make return as soon as possible to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Joseph Trumbull be commissary-general of stores and provisions for the army of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of a quarter-master general, a commissary of musters, and a commissary of artillery, be left to general Washington.

That general Thomas be appointed first brigadier-general in the army of the United Colonies, in the room of general Pomeroy, who never acted under the commission sent to him, and that general Thomas's commission bear the same date that general Pomeroy's did.

That it be left to general Washington, if he thinks fit, to appoint three brigade-majors, and commission them accordingly.

That a committee of three be appointed to report the method of establishing an hospital.

The committee chosen are, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Middleton.

That it be recommended to the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, to complete the deficiencies in the regiments belonging to their respective colonies, retained by the general in the continental army before Boston.

That it be recommended to the colony of Rhode-Island, to complete and send forward to the camp before Boston, as soon as possible, the three hundred and sixty men, lately voted by their general assembly.

That it be recommended to the colony of Connecticut, to complete and send forward to the camp before Boston, as soon as possible, the fourteen hundred men lately voted by their general assembly.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to bring in an estimate of the expenses, incurred by the votes and resolves of this Congress.

Mr. Deane, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Cushing chosen.

*Agreed*, That the Congress meet at this place to-morrow, and from this place go in a body to attend divine service.

*Resolved*, That the nomination of three of the commissioners for Indian affairs, in the southern department, be left to the council of safety, appointed by the colony of South-Carolina.

That Mr. John Walker, of Virginia, be appointed one of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department.

Adjourned till to-morrow at half past nine o'clock.

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THURSDAY, *July 20, 1775, half after nine, A. M.*


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An express arriving with despatches from general Schuyler, the same were read.

A letter was also received from the convention of Georgia, and read, setting forth, that that colony had acceded to the general association, and appointed delegates to attend this Congress.

Adjourned till one o'clock, P. M.

P. M. met according to adjournment.

The despatches from general Schuyler being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be empowered to dispose of and employ all the troops in the New-York department, in such manner as he may think best for the protection and defence of these colonies, the tribes of Indians in friendship and amity with us, and most effectually to promote the general in-

terest, still pursuing, if in his power, the former orders from this Congress and subject to the future orders of the commander in chief.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

### FRIDAY, *July 21, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of Jamaica, having brought in a draught, the same was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the people of Ireland, brought in a draught :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. R. Bache, Mr. Stephen Paschall, and Mr. M. Hillegas, be appointed to superintend the press, and to have the oversight and care of printing the bills of credit ordered to be struck by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Willie Jones, of North-Carolina, be the fifth commissioner of Indian affairs in the southern department.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that they had come to certain resolutions, which he read, and then desired leave to sit again.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these colonies, brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The Congress then entered upon the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That such a body of troops be kept up in the Massachusetts-Bay, as general Washington shall think necessary, provided they do not exceed twenty-two thousand men.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

### SATURDAY, *July 22, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the order of yesterday, the Congress took into consideration the report of the committee appointed to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these colonies, and after some debate, the farther consideration of it was postponed to a future day.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Lee, be a committee to take into consideration, and report on the resolution of the house of commons; Feb. 20, 1775, commonly called lord North's motion.

Adjourned till Monday at eight o'clock.

Monday being spent in a committee of the whole.

### TUESDAY, *July 25, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The committee for that purpose appointed, brought in their report for establishing an hospital, which was read.

The committee appointed to consider the ways and means of establishing a post, brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to be considered to-morrow.

The committee appointed to consider and report their opinion of the resolution of the house of commons, brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the address to the assembly of Jamaica, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

**MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY OF JAMAICA,**

We would-think ourselves deficient in our duty, if we suffered this Congress to pass over, without expressing our esteem for the assembly of Jamaica.

Whoever attends to the conduct of those who have been entrusted with the administration of British affairs, during these last twelve years, will discover in it, a deliberate plan to destroy, in every part of the empire, the free constitution, for which Britain has been so long and so justly famed. With a dexterity, artful and wicked, they have varied the modes of attack, according to the different characters and circumstances of those whom they meant to reduce. In the East-Indies, where the effeminacy of the inhabitants promised an easy conquest, they thought it unnecessary to veil their tyrannic principles under the thinnest disguise. Without deigning even to pretend a justification of their conduct, they sacrificed the lives of millions to the gratification of their insatiable avarice and lust of power. In Britain, where the maxims of freedom were still known, but where luxury and dissipation had diminished the wonted reverence for them, the attack has been carried on in a more secret and indirect manner : Corruption has been employed to undermine them. The Americans are not enervated by effeminacy, like the inhabitants of India ; nor debauched by luxury, like those of Great-Britain : It was, therefore, judged improper to assail them by bribery, or by undisguised force. Plausible systems were formed ; specious pretences were made : All the arts of sophistry were tried to shew that the British ministry had by law a right to enslave us. The first and best maxims of the constitution, venerable to Britons and to Americans, were perverted and profaned. The power of parliament, derived from the people, to bind the people, was extended over those from whom it was never derived. It is asserted, that a standing army may be constitutionally kept among us, without our consent. Those principles, dishonorable to those who adopted them, and destructive to those to whom they were applied, were nevertheless carried into execution by the foes of liberty and of mankind. Acts of parliament, ruinous to America, and unserviceable to Britain, were made to bind us ; armies, maintained by the parliament, were sent over to secure their operation. The power, however, and the cunning of our adversaries, were alike unsuccessful. We refused to their parliaments an obedience, which our judgments disapproved of : We refused to their armies a submission, which spirits unaccustomed to slavery, could not brook.

But while we spurned a disgraceful subjection, we were far from running into rash or seditious measures of opposition. Filled with sentiments of loyalty to our sovereign, and of affection and respect for our fellow-subjects in Britain, we petitioned, we supplicated, we expostulated : Our prayers were rejected ;—our remonstrances were disregarded ;—our grievances were accumulated. All this did not provoke us to violence.

An appeal to the justice and humanity of those who had injured us, and who were bound to redress our injuries, was ineffectual : we next resolved to make an appeal to their interest, though by doing so, we knew we must sacrifice our own, and (which gave us equal uneasiness) that of our friends, who had never offended us, and who were connected with us by a sympathy of feelings, under oppressions similar to our own. We resolved to give up our commerce that we might preserve our liberty. We flattered ourselves, that when, by withdrawing our commercial intercourse with Britain, which we had an undoubted right either to withdraw or continue, her trade should be diminished, her revenues impaired, and her manufactures unemployed, our ministerial foes would be induced by interest, or compelled by necessity, to depart from the plan of ty-

ranny which they had so long pursued, and to substitute in its place, a system more compatible with the freedom of America, and justice of Britain. That this scheme of non-importation and non-exportation might be productive of the desired effects, we were obliged to include the islands in it. From this necessity, and from this necessity alone, has our conduct towards them proceeded. By converting your sugar plantations into fields of grain, you can supply yourselves with the necessaries of life: While the present unhappy struggle shall continue, we cannot do more.

But why should we make any apology to the patriotic assembly of Jamaica, who know so well the value of liberty; who are so sensible of the extreme danger to which ours is exposed; and who foresee how certainly the destruction of ours must be followed by the destruction of their own?

We receive uncommon pleasure from observing the principles of our righteous opposition distinguished by your approbation: We feel the warmest gratitude for your pathetic mediation in our behalf with the crown. It was indeed unavailing—but are you to blame? Mournful experience tells us that petitions are often rejected, while the sentiments and conduct of the petitioners entitle what they offer to a happier fate.

That our petitions have been treated with disdain, is now become the smallest part of our complaint: Ministerial insolence is lost in ministerial barbarity. It has, by an exertion peculiarly ingenious, procured those very measures, which it laid us under the hard necessity of pursuing, to be stigmatized in parliament as rebellious: It has employed additional fleets and armies for the infamous purpose of compelling us to abandon them: It has plunged us in all the horrors and calamities of civil war: It has caused the treasure and blood of Britons (formerly shed and expended for far other ends) to be spilt and wasted in the execrable design of spreading slavery over British America: It will not, however, accomplish its aim: In the worst of contingencies, a choice will still be left, which it never can prevent us from making.

The peculiar situation of your island forbids your assistance. But we have your good wishes. From the good wishes of the friends of liberty and mankind, we shall always derive consolation.

*Ordered*, That a fair copy be made out, to be signed by the president, and transmitted by the first opportunity.

The Congress then, resuming the report of the committee of the whole, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That a body of forces not exceeding five thousand, be kept up in the New-York department, for the purpose of defending that part of America, and for securing the lakes, and protecting the frontiers from incursions or invasions.

That a farther sum, amounting to the value of one million of Spanish milled dollars, be struck in bills of thirty dollars each.

As the signing so great a number of bills as has been directed to be issued by this Congress, will require more time than the members can possibly devote to that business, consistent with the attention due to the public service,

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed and fully authorized to sign the same, viz. Luke Morris, Samuel Meredith, Judah Foulke, Samuel Morris, Frederick Kuhl, Robert Strettle Jones, Thomas Coombe, Ellis Lewis, John Mease, Thomas Lawrence, Daniel Clymer, John Maxwell Nesbit, Thomas Barclay, John Bayard, William Craig, Thomas Bartow, John Shee, Isaac Hazlehurst, Robert Roberts, Anthony Morris, Mordecai Lewis, George Mifflin, Robert Tuckniss, Andrew Bunner, William Jackson, Joseph Sims, James Milligan, and James Reed.

That each of the continental bills be numbered and signed by two of the above gentlemen.

That each gentleman who signs the continental bills, be allowed and paid out of the continental treasury, one dollar and one-third of a dollar for each and every thousand bills signed, and numbered by him.

That the gentlemen appointed to number and sign the bills, do give their receipts for the same, expressing the number and denomination of them; and after numbering and signing them, shall deliver the same to the continental treasurers, taking their receipts for the bills so delivered.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. Samuel Adams, Mr. Lee, and Mr. J. Rutledge, with the secretary, be a committee to revise the journal of this Congress, and prepare it for the press.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, July 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee for establishing a post; and the same being debated, was agreed to as follows:

That a post-master general be appointed for the United Colonies, who shall hold his office at Philadelphia, and shall be allowed a salary of one thousand dollars per annum for himself, and three hundred and forty dollars per annum for a secretary and comptroller, with power to appoint such, and so many deputies as to him may seem proper and necessary.

That a line of posts be appointed under the direction of the post-master general, from Falmouth in New-England to Savannah in Georgia, with as many cross posts as he shall think fit.

That the allowance to the deputies in lieu of salary and all contingent expenses, shall be twenty per centum on the sums they collect and pay into the general post-office annually, when the whole is under or not exceeding one thousand dollars, and ten per centum for all sums above one thousand dollars a year.

That the several deputies account quarterly with the general post-office, and the post-master general annually with the continental treasurers, when he shall pay into the receipt of the said treasurers, the profits of the post-office; and if the necessary expense of this establishment should exceed the produce of it, the deficiency shall be made good by the United Colonies, and paid to the post-master general by the continental treasurers.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the post-master general to establish a weekly post to South-Carolina.

That it be left to the post-master general to appoint a secretary and comptroller.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a post-master general for one year, and until another is appointed by a future Congress, when Benjamin Franklin, esq. was unanimously chosen.

Adjourned till to morrow at eight o'clock.

### THURSDAY, July 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on establishing an hospital for the army, and the same being debated, was agreed to as follows:

That for the establishment of an hospital for an army, consisting of twenty thousand men, the following officers and other attendants be appointed, with the following allowance or pay, viz.

One director-general and chief physician, his pay per day, four dollars.

Four surgeons, each ditto, one and one third of a dollar.

One apothecary, ditto, one and one third of a dollar.

Twenty surgeons' mates, each ditto, two thirds of a dollar.

One clerk, ditto, two thirds of a dollar.

Two store-keepers, each four dollars per month.

One nurse to every ten sick, one fifteenth of a dollar per day, or two dollars per month.

Labourers occasionally.

The duty of the above officers :

The director to furnish medicines, bedding and all other necessaries, to pay for the same, superintend the whole, and make his report to, and receive orders from the commander in chief.

Surgeons, apothecary and mates, } To visit and attend the sick, and the mates to obey the orders of the physicians, surgeons and apothecary.

Matron. To superintend the nurses, bedding, &c.

Nurses. To attend the sick, and obey the matron's orders.

Clerk. To keep accounts for the director and store keepers.

Store-keeper. To receive and deliver the bedding and other necessaries by order of the director.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of officers for the hospital, when

Benjamin Church was unanimously elected to be director of, and physician in, the hospital.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of the four surgeons and the apothecary be left to doctor B. Church.

That the mates be appointed by the surgeons.

That the number of mates do not exceed twenty.

That the number be not kept in constant pay, unless the sick and wounded should be so numerous as to require the attendance of twenty, and to be diminished as circumstances will admit; for which purpose, the pay is fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

That one clerk, two store-keepers, and one nurse to every ten sick, be appointed by the director.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That the pay-master give bond, with two sureties, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, for the faithful performance of his office.

That the bond be made payable to the same persons, to whom the bonds of the continental treasurers are payable.

James Warren, esq. was then unanimously elected pay-master general.

*Resolved*, That the paymaster in the New-York department give bond to the same persons as above directed, with two sureties, in the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, for the faithful performance of his office.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

#### FRIDAY July 28, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Wilson, prepare the form of bonds for the continental treasurers to execute.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a pay-master for the forces in the New-York department, when Jonathan Trumbull, jun. esq. was unanimously elected to that office.

The address to the people of Ireland being again read by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

To the people of Ireland. From the delegates appointed by the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina, in general Congress at Philadelphia, the 10th of May, 1775.

#### FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS !

As the important contest, into which we have been driven, is now become interesting to every European state, and particularly affects the members of the British empire, we think it our duty to address you on the subject. We are

desirous, as is natural to injured innocence, of possessing the good opinion of the virtuous and humane. We are peculiarly desirous of furnishing you with a true state of our motives and objects; the better to enable you to judge of our conduct with accuracy, and determine the merits of the controversy with impartiality and precision.

However incredible it may appear, that, at this enlightened period, the leaders of a nation, which in every age has sacrificed hecatombs of her bravest patriots on the altar of liberty, should presume gravely to assert, and, by force of arms, attempt to establish an arbitrary sway over the lives, liberties, and property of their fellow-subjects in America, it is, nevertheless, a most deplorable and indisputable truth.

These colonies have, from the time of their first settlement, for near two centuries, peaceably enjoyed those very rights, of which the ministry have, for ten years past, endeavoured, by fraud and by violence, to deprive them. At the conclusion of the last war, the genius of England and the spirit of wisdom, as if offended at the ungrateful treatment of their sons, withdrew from the British councils, and left that nation a prey to a race of ministers, with whom ancient English honesty and benevolence disdained to dwell. From that period, jealousy, discontent, oppression and discord have raged among all his majesty's subjects; and filled every part of his dominions with distress and complaint.

Not content with our purchasing of Britain, at her own price, clothing and a thousand other articles used by near three millions of people on this vast continent; not satisfied with the amazing profits arising from the monopoly of our trade, without giving us either time to breathe after a long, though glorious war, or the least credit for the blood and treasure we have expended in it; notwithstanding the zeal we had manifested for the service of our sovereign, and the warmest attachment to the constitution of Britain and the people of England, a black and horrid design was formed, to convert us from freemen into slaves, from subjects into vassals, and from friends into enemies.

Taxes, for the first time since we landed on the American shores, were, without our consent, imposed upon us; an unconstitutional edict to compel us to furnish necessaries for a standing army, that we wished to see disbanded, was issued; and the legislature of New-York suspended for refusing to comply with it. Our ancient and inestimable right of trial by jury was, in many instances, abolished; and the common law of the land made to give place to admiralty jurisdictions. Judges were rendered, by the tenure of their commissions, entirely dependent on the will of a minister. New crimes were arbitrarily created: and new courts, unknown to the constitution, instituted. Wicked and insidious governors have been set over us; and dutiful petitions, for the removal of even the notoriously infamous governor Hutchinson, were branded with the opprobrious appellation of scandalous and defamatory. Hardy attempts have been made, under colour of parliamentary authority, to seize Americans, and carry them to Great-Britain to be tried for offences committed in the colonies. Ancient charters have no longer remained sacred; that of the Massachusetts-Bay was violated; and their form of government essentially mutilated and transformed. On pretence of punishing a violation of some private property, committed by a few disguised individuals, the populous and flourishing town of Boston was surrounded by fleets and armies; its trade destroyed; its port blocked up; and thirty thousand citizens subjected to all the miseries attending so sudden a convulsion in their commercial metropolis; and, to remove every obstacle to the rigorous execution of this system of oppression, an act of parliament was passed evidently calculated to indemnify those, who might, in the prosecution of it, even embrue their hands in the blood of the inhabitants.

Though pressed by such an accumulation of undeserved injuries, America still remembered her duty to her sovereign. A Congress, consisting of depu-

ties from twelve United Colonies, assembled. They, in the most respectful terms, laid their grievances at the foot of the throne; and implored his majesty's interposition in their behalf. They also agreed to suspend all trade with Great-Britain, Ireland, and the West-Indies; hoping, by this peaceable mode of opposition, to obtain that justice from the British ministry which had been so long solicited in vain. And here permit us to assure you, that it was with the utmost reluctance we could prevail upon ourselves, to cease our commercial connexion with your island. Your parliament had done us no wrong. You had ever been friendly to the rights of mankind; and we acknowledge, with pleasure and gratitude, that your nation has produced patriots, who have nobly distinguished themselves in the cause of humanity and America. On the other hand, we were not ignorant that the labour and manufactures of Ireland, like those of the silk-worm, were of little moment to herself; but served only to give luxury to those who neither toil nor spin. We perceived that if we continued our commerce with you, our agreement not to import from Britain would be fruitless, and were, therefore, compelled to adopt a measure, to which nothing but absolute necessity would have reconciled us. It gave us, however, some consolation to reflect, that should it occasion much distress, the fertile regions of America would afford you a safe assylum from poverty, and, in time, from oppression also; an assylum, in which many thousands of your countrymen have found hospitality, peace, and affluence, and become united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, mutual interest, and affection. Nor did Congress stop here: Flattered by a pleasing expectation, that the justice and humanity which had so long characterized the English nation, would, on proper application, afford us relief, they represented their grievances in an affectionate address to their brethren in Britain, and intreated their aid and interposition in behalf of these colonies.

The more fully to evince their respect for their sovereign, the unhappy people of Boston were requested by the Congress to submit with patience to their fate; and all America united in a resolution to abstain from every species of violence. During this period, that devoted town suffered unspeakably. Its inhabitants were insulted and their property violated. Still relying on the clemency and justice of his majesty and the nation, they permitted a few regiments to take possession of their town, to surround it with fortifications; and to cut off all intercourse between them and their friends in the country.

With anxious expectation did all America wait the event of their petition—All America laments its fate. Their prince was deaf to their complaints: and vain were all attempts to impress him with a sense of the sufferings of his American subjects, of the cruelty of their task-masters, and of the many plagues which impended over his dominions. Instead of directions for a candid enquiry into our grievances, insult was added to oppression; and our long forbearance rewarded with the imputation of cowardice. Our trade with foreign states was prohibited; and an act of parliament passed to prevent our even fishing on our own coasts. Our peaceable assemblies, for the purpose of consulting the common safety, were declared seditious; and our asserting the very rights which placed the crown of Great-Britain on the heads of the three successive princes of the house of Hanover, stiled rebellion. Orders were given to reinforce the troops in America. The wild and barbarous savages of the wilderness have been solicited, by gifts, to take up the hatchet against us; and instigated to deluge our settlements with the blood of innocent and defenceless women and children. The whole country was, moreover, alarmed with the horrors of domestic insurrections. Refinements in parental cruelty, at which the genius of Britain must blush! Refinements which admit not of being even recited without horror, or practised without infamy! We should be happy, were these dark machinations the mere suggestions of suspicion. We are sorry to declare, that we are possessed of the most authentic and indubitable evidence of their reality.

The ministry, bent on pulling down the pillars of the constitution, endeavoured to erect the standard of despotism in America; and if successful, Britain and Ireland may shudder at the consequences!

Three of their most experienced generals are sent to wage war with their fellow-subjects: and America is amazed to find the name of Howe in the catalogue of her enemies: She loved his brother.

Despairing of driving the colonists to resistance by any other means than actual hostility, a detachment of the army at Boston marched into the country in all the array of war; and, unprovoked, fired upon, and killed several of the inhabitants. The neighbouring farmers suddenly assembled, and repelled the attack. From this, all communication between the town and country was intercepted. The citizens petitioned the general for permission to leave the town, and he promised, on surrendering their arms, to permit them to depart with their other effects. They accordingly surrendered their arms, and the general violated his faith. Under various pretences, passports were delayed and denied; and many thousands of the inhabitants are, at this day, confined in the town, in the utmost wretchedness and want. The lame, the blind, and the sick, have indeed, been turned out into the neighbouring fields; and some, eluding the vigilance of the centries, have escaped from the town, by swimming to the adjacent shores.

The war having thus began on the part of general Gage's troops, the country armed and embodied. The reinforcements from Ireland soon after arrived; a vigorous attack was then made upon the provincials. In their march, the troops surrounded the town of Charlestown, consisting of about four hundred houses, then recently abandoned to escape the fury of a relentless soldiery. Having plundered the houses, they set fire to the town, and reduced it to ashes. To this wanton waste of property, unknown to civilized nations, they were prompted the better to conceal their approach under cover of the smoke. A shocking mixture of cowardice and cruelty, which then first tarnished the lustre of the British arms, when aimed at a brother's breast! But, blessed be God, they were restrained from committing further ravages, by the loss of a very considerable part of their army, including many of their most experienced officers. The loss of the inhabitants was inconsiderable.

Compelled, therefore, to behold thousands of our countrymen imprisoned, and men, women and children involved in promiscuous and unmerited misery! When we find all faith at an end, and sacred treaties turned into tricks of state; when we perceive our friends and kinsmen massacred, our habitations plundered, our houses in flames, and their once-happy inhabitants fed only by the hand of charity; who can blame us for endeavouring to restrain the progress of desolation? who can censure our repelling the attacks of such a barbarous band? who, in such circumstances, would not obey the great, the universal, the divine law of self-preservation?

Though vilified as wanting spirit, we are determined to behave like men—though insulted and abused, we wish for reconciliation—though defamed as seditious, we are ready to obey the laws—and though charged with rebellion, will cheerfully bleed in defence of our sovereign in a righteous cause. What more can we say? What more can we offer?

But we forbear to trouble you with a tedious detail of the various and fruitless offers and applications we have repeatedly made, not for pensions, for wealth, or for honors, but for the humble boon of being permitted to possess the fruits of honest industry, and to enjoy that degree of liberty, to which God and the constitution have given us an undoubted right.

Blessed with an indissoluble union, with a variety of internal resources, and with a firm reliance on the justice of the Supreme Disposer of all human events, we have no doubt of rising superior to all the machinations of evil and abandoned ministers. We already anticipate the golden period, when liberty, with

all the gentle arts of peace and humanity, shall establish her mild dominion in this western world, and erect eternal monuments to the memory of those virtuous patriots and martyrs, who shall have fought and bled and suffered in her cause.

Accept our most grateful acknowledgments for the friendly disposition you have always shewn towards us. We know that you are not without your grievances. We sympathize with you in your distress, and are pleased to find that the design of subjugating us, has persuaded administration to dispense to Ireland, some vagrant rays of ministerial sunshine. Even the tender mercies of government have long been cruel towards you. In the rich pastures of Ireland, many hungry parricides have fed, and grown strong to labour in its destruction. We hope the patient abiding of the meek may not always be forgotten; and God grant that the iniquitous schemes of extirpating liberty from the British empire may be soon defeated. But we should be wanting to ourselves—we should be perfidious to posterity—we should be unworthy that ancestry from which we derive our descent, should we submit, with folded arms, to military butchery and depredation, to gratify the lordly ambition, or sate the avarice of a British ministry. In defence of our persons and properties, under actual violation, we have taken up arms; when that violence shall be removed, and hostilities cease on the part of the aggressors, they shall cease on our part also.—For the achievement of this happy event, we confide in the good offices of our fellow-subjects beyond the Atlantic. Of their friendly disposition, we do not yet despond; aware, as they must be, that they have nothing more to expect from the same common enemy, than the humble favour of being last devoured.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, *July 29, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, and came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the pay of the commissary-general of musters be forty dollars per month.

Deputy commissary-general of stores and provisions, sixty dollars per ditto.

Deputy adjutant-general, fifty dollars per do.

Deputy muster-master-general, forty dollars per do.

Brigade-major, thirty-three dollars per do.

Commissary of artillery, thirty dollars per do.

Judge advocate, twenty dollars per do.

Colonel, fifty dollars per do.

Lieutenant-colonel, forty dollars per do.

Major, thirty-three dollars and one-third per do.

Captain, twenty dollars per do.

Lieutenant, thirteen dollars and one-third per do.

Ensign, ten dollars per do.

Serjeant, eight dollars per do.

Corporal, drummer, and fifer, each seven dollars and one-third per do.

Private, six dollars and two-thirds per do.

Adjutant, eighteen dollars and one-third per do.

Quarter-master, eighteen dollars and one-third per do.

Chaplain, twenty dollars per do.

That the pay of the light-infantry be the same as that in the regiment from a captain to a private, both inclusive.

That in the artillery, the pay of a captain be twenty-six dollars and two-thirds per month.

Captain-lieutenant, twenty dollars per do.

Lieutenants, first and second, eighteen dollars and one-third per do.

Lieutenant fireworker, thirteen dollars and one-third per do.

Serjeant, eight dollars and one-third per do.

Corporal, seven dollars and a half per month.

Bombardier, seven dollars per do.

Matross, six dollars and five-sixths of a dollar per do.

That the appointment of provost-martial, waggon-master, and master carpenter, be left to the commander in chief of the army, who is to fix their pay, having regard to the pay they receive in the ministerial army, and the proportion that the pay of the officers in said army bears to the pay of our officers.

William Tudor, esq. was elected judge advocate of the army.

*Resolved*, That Michael Hillegas, and George Clymer, esqrs. be joint treasurers of the United Colonies: that the treasurers reside in Philadelphia, and that they shall give bond, with surety, for the faithful performance of their office, in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, to John Hancock, Henry Middleton, John Dickinson, John Alsop, Thomas Lynch, Richard Henry Lee, and James Wilson, esqrs. and the survivor of them, in trust for the United Colonies.

That the provincial assemblies or conventions do each choose a treasurer for their respective colonies, and take sufficient security for the faithful performance of the trust.

That each colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of the bills ordered to be emitted by this Congress, in such manner as may be most effectual and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and equal mode of levying taxes in such colony.

That the proportion or quota of each colony be determined according to the number of inhabitants, of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes in each colony; but, as this cannot, at present, be ascertained, that the quotas of the several colonies be settled for the present, as follows, to undergo a revision and correction, when the list of each colony is obtained.

New-Hampshire,	124069½	Pennsylvania,	372208½
Massachusetts-Bay,	434244	Delaware,	87219½
Rhode-Island,	71959½	Maryland,	310174½
Connecticut,	248139	Virginia,	496278
New-York,	248139	North-Carolina,	248139
New-Jersey,	161290½	South-Carolina,	248139
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3,000,000			

That each colony pay its respective quota in four equal annual payments. the first payment to be made on or before the last day of November, which will be in the year of our Lord, 1779; the second, on or before the last day of November, 1780; the third, on or before the last day of November, 1781; and the fourth or last, on or before the last day of November, 1782; and that for this end, the several provincial assemblies, or conventions, provide for laying and levying taxes in their respective provinces or colonies, towards sinking the continental bills: that the said bills be received by the collectors in payment of such taxes, and be by the collectors paid into the hands of the provincial treasurers, with all such other monies as they may receive in lieu of the continental bills, which other monies the said provincial treasurer shall endeavor to get exchanged for continental bills, and where that cannot be done, shall send to the continental treasurers the deficiency in silver or gold, with the bills making up the quota to be sunk in that year, taking care to cut, by a circular punch, of an inch diameter, an hole in each bill, and to cross the same, thereby to render them unpassable, though the sum or value is to remain fairly legible: And the continental treasurers, as fast as they receive the said quotas, shall, with the assistance of a committee of five persons, to be appointed by the Congress, if sitting, or by the assembly or convention of the province of Pennsylvania, examine and count the continental bills, and in the presence of the

said committee, burn and destroy them. And the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies of quotas, they shall retain in their hands until demanded in redemption of continental bills, that may be brought to them for that purpose, which bills so redeemed, they shall also burn and destroy in presence of the said committee. And the said treasurers, whenever they have silver or gold in their hands for the redemption of continental bills, shall advertise the same, signifying that he is ready to give silver or gold for such bills, to all persons requiring it in exchange.

The provincial treasurers and collectors are to have such allowances for their respective services, as shall be directed by the several assemblies or conventions, to be paid by their respective province or colony,

That the continental treasurers be allowed for their service this year, five hundred dollars each.

*Resolved*, That the pay-master general, commissary general, quarter-master general, and every of their deputies, shall take an oath, truly and faithfully to discharge the duties of their respective stations.

*Ordered*, That the continental treasurers do pay to colonel William Thompson, or his order, five thousand dollars, on account, being by advance for the service of a battalion of riflemen under his command.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, as soon as the public business permits, adjourn to the fifth of September next.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, on Monday next, consider of the state of trade, after the tenth of next September.

Mr. M'Kean, from the committee, reported the form of a bond, to be given by the joint continental treasurers.

*Ordered*, That the said committee do inspect into the sufficiency of the sureties.

Adjourned till Monday at eight o'clock.

MONDAY, *July 31, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the resolve of the house of commons, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

The several assemblies of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, having referred to the Congress a resolution of the house of Commons of Great-Britain, which resolution is in these words :

LUNÆ, 20° *Die Feb. 1775.*

“ The house in a committee on the American papers. Motion made, and question proposed :

“ That it is the opinion of this committee, that when the general council and assembly, or general court of any of his majesty's provinces, or colonies in America, shall propose to make provision, according to the condition, circumstance, or situation of such province or colony, for contributing their proportion to the common defence (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the general court, or general assembly of such province or colony, and disposable by parliament) and shall engage to make provision also, for the support of the civil government, and the administration of justice in such province or colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by his majesty, and the two houses of parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear in respect to such province or colony, to lay any duty, tax, or assessment, or to impose any farther duty, tax, or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy or impose, for the regulation of commerce ; the net produce or the duties last mentioned to be carried to the account of such province or colony respectively.”

The Congress took the said resolution into consideration, and are thereupon, of opinion,

That the colonies of America are entitled to the sole and exclusive privilege of giving and granting their own money: that this involves a right of deliberating whether they will make any gift, for what purposes it shall be made, and what shall be its amount; and that it is a high breach of this privilege for any body of men, extraneous to their constitutions, to prescribe the purposes for which money shall be levied on them, to take to themselves the authority of judging of their conditions, circumstances, and situations, and of determining the amount of the contribution to be levied.

That as the colonies possess a right of appropriating their gifts, so are they entitled at all times to enquire into their application, to see that they be not wasted among the venal and corrupt for the purpose of undermining the civil rights of the givers, nor yet be diverted to the support of standing armies, inconsistent with their freedom and subversive of their quiet. To propose, therefore, as this resolution does, that the moneys given by the colonies shall be subject to the disposal of parliament alone, is to propose that they shall relinquish this right of inquiry, and put it in the power of others to render their gifts ruinous, in proportion as they are liberal.

That this privilege of giving or of withholding our moneys, is an important barrier against the undue exertion of prerogative, which, if left altogether without controul, may be exercised to our great oppression; and all history shows how efficacious is its intercessions for redress of grievances and re-establishment of rights, and how inprovident it would be to part with so powerful a mediator.

We are of opinion that the proposition contained in this resolution is unreasonable and insidious: Unreasonable, because, if we declare we accede to it, we declare, without reservation, we will purchase the favour of parliament, not knowing at the same time at what price they will please to estimate their favour; it is insidious, because, individual colonies, having bid and bidden again, till they find the avidity of the seller too great for all their powers to satisfy; are then to return into opposition, divided from their sister colonies whom the minister will have previously detached by a grant of easier terms, or by an artful procrastination of a definitive answer.

That the suspension of the exercise of their pretended power of taxation being expressly made commensurate with the continuance of our gifts, these must be perpetual to make that so. Whereas no experience has shewn that a gift of perpetual revenue secures a perpetual return of duty or of kind disposition. On the contrary, the parliament itself, wisely attentive to this observation, are in the established practice of granting their supplies from year to year only.

Desirous and determined, as we are, to consider, in the most dispassionate view, every seeming advance towards a reconciliation made by the British parliament, let our brethren of Britain reflect, what would have been the sacrifice to men of free spirits, had even fair terms been proffered, as these insidious proposals were with circumstances of insult and defiance. A proposition to give our money, accompanied with large fleets and armies, seems addressed to our fears rather than to our freedom. With what patience would Britons have received articles of treaty from any power on earth when borne on the point of the bayonet by military plenipotentiaries?

We think the attempt unnecessary to raise upon us by force or by threats, our proportional contributions to the common defence, when all know, and themselves acknowledge, we have fully contributed, whenever called upon to do so in the character of freemen.

We are of opinion it is not just that the colonies should be required to oblige themselves to other contributions, while Great-Britain possesses a mo-

nopoly of their trade. This of itself lays them under heavy contribution. To demand, therefore, additional aids in the form of a tax, is to demand the double of their equal proportion: if we are to contribute equally with the other parts of the empire, let us equally with them enjoy free commerce with the whole world. But while the restrictions on our trade shut to us the resources of wealth, is it just we should bear all other burthens equally with those to whom every resource is open.

We conceive that the British parliament has no right to intermeddle with our provisions for the support of civil government, or administration of justice. The provisions we have made, are such as please ourselves, and are agreeable to our own circumstances: they answer the substantial purposes of government and of justice, and other purposes than these should not be answered. We do not mean that our people shall be burthened with oppressive taxes, to provide sinecures for the idle or the wicked, under color of providing for a civil list. While parliament pursue their plan of civil government within their own jurisdiction, we also hope to pursue ours without molestation.

We are of opinion the proposition is altogether unsatisfactory, because it imports only a suspension of the mode, not a renunciation of the pretended right to tax us: because, too, it does not propose to repeal the several acts of parliament passed for the purposes of restraining the trade, and altering the form of government of one of our colonies: extending the boundaries and changing the government of Quebec; enlarging the jurisdiction of the courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty; taking from us the rights of trial by a jury of the vicinage, in cases affecting both life and property; transporting us into other countries to be tried for criminal offences; exempting, by mock-trial, the murderers of colonists from punishment; and quartering soldiers on us in times of profound peace. Nor do they renounce the power of suspending our own legislatures, and for legislating for us themselves in all cases whatsoever. On the contrary, to shew they mean to discontinuance of injury, they pass acts, at the very time of holding out this proposition, for restraining the commerce and fisheries of the provinces of New-England, and for interdicting the trade of other colonies with all foreign nations, and with each other. This proves, unequivocally, they mean not to relinquish the exercise of indiscriminate legislation over us.

Upon the whole, this proposition seems to have been held up to the world, to deceive it into a belief that there was nothing in dispute between us but the mode of levying taxes; and that the parliament having now been so good as to give up this, the colonies are unreasonable if not perfectly satisfied: Whereas, in truth, our adversaries still claim a right of demanding *ad libitum*, and of taxing us themselves to the full amount of their demand, if we do comply with it. This leaves us without any thing we can call property. But, what is of more importance, and what in this proposal they keep out of sight, as if no such point was now in contest between us, they claim a right to alter our charters and establish laws, and leave us without any security for our lives or liberties. The proposition seems also to have been calculated more particularly to lull into fatal security, our well affected fellow-subjects on the other side the water, till time should be given for the operation of those arms, which a British minister pronounced would instantaneously reduce the "cowardly" sons of America to unreserved submission. But, when the world reflects how inadequate to justice are these vaunted terms; when it attends to the rapid and bold succession of injuries, which, during the course of eleven years, have been aimed at these colonies; when it reviews the pacific and respectful expostulations, which, during that whole time, were the sole arms we opposed to them; when it observes that our complaints were either not heard at all, or were answered with new and accumulated injuries; when it recollects that the minister himself, on an early occasion, declared "that he would never treat

with America, till he had brought her to his feet," and that an avowed partizan of ministry has more lately denounced against us the dreadful sentence, "*delenda est Carthago*;" that this was done in the presence of a British senate, and being unproved by them, must be taken to be their own sentiment, (especially as the purpose has already in part been carried into execution, by their treatment of Boston and burning of Charlestown; when it considers the great armaments with which they have invaded us, and the circumstances of cruelty with which they have commenced and prosecuted hostilities; when these things, we say, are laid together and attentively considered, can the world be deceived into an opinion that we are unreasonable, or can it hesitate to believe with us, that nothing but our own exertions may defeat the ministerial sentence of death or abject submission.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That Mr. Langdon, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Deane, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Crane, Doctor Franklin, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Henry, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Hall, be a committee, in the recess of Congress, to make enquiry in all the colonies, after virgin lead, and leaden ore, and the best methods of collecting, smelting, and refining it.

*Resolved*, That the above named gentlemen be a committee, in the recess of the Congress, to inquire into the cheapest and easiest methods of making salt in these colonies.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took under consideration the state of trade after the tenth of September, and after some debate, the same was postponed to a future day.

On motion, *Resolved*, That when the Congress adjourns for recess, it be adjourned to meet at Philadelphia.

Two petitions, one from sundry merchants in New-York, and the other from sundry merchants in Philadelphia, respecting the sale of teas imported before the late association, were laid before Congress.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eight o'clock.

## TUESDAY, August 1, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be immediately forwarded from the continental treasury, to the pay-master general, to be applied to the use of the army in Massachusetts-Bay, in such manner, as general Washington, or the commander in chief for the time being, by his warrants, shall limit and appoint; and if the above sum shall be expended before the next meeting of the Congress, then that general Washington, or the commander in chief for the time being, be empowered to draw upon the continental treasury, for the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, in favor of the pay-master general, to be applied for the use and in the manner above mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the delegates for Pennsylvania be a committee to receive and count the above sum of five hundred thousand dollars, and forward the same, under the care of the delegates of Massachusetts-Bay, provided so much is now ready in the treasury. If that is not the case, then to receive, count, and forward, by the said delegates, what is ready, and the remainder by the first opportunity in the safest and best manner.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars be paid to the provincial convention of New-York, to be applied towards the discharge of the moneys advanced and the debts contracted for the public service, by the said provincial convention and the committee of Albany, in pursuance of the directions of this Congress; and that the said provincial convention account to this Congress, at their next meeting, for the application of the said money.

**Resolved,** That the treasurers be, and they are hereby, ordered to pay to the delegates of the colony of Connecticut, viz. Ellphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman, and Silas Deane, esqrs. the sum of fifty thousand dollars, to be by them paid unto the governor and company of the said colony, in part of the sums by them disbursed in the continental service: The said governor and company to account therefor.

**Resolved,** That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be immediately forwarded from the continental treasury, to the paymaster general, to be applied to the use of the army in the New-York department, in such manner as general Schuyler, by his warrant, shall limit and appoint; and that if the above sum shall be expended before the next meeting of Congress, then that general Schuyler, or the commander in chief, for the time being, in that department, be empowered to draw upon the continental treasury, for a further sum, not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, to be applied for the use and in the manner above mentioned.

**Resolved,** That the sum of sixteen thousand dollars be paid to the delegates of the colony of Pennsylvania, in full for the like sum by them borrowed by order of the Congress, on the 3d of June last, for the use of the continent.

**Resolved,** That the sum of ten thousand dollars be placed in the hands of the delegates of Pennsylvania, or any three of them, for contingent services, and that out of the same, be paid the expenses incurred for raising and arming the rifle companies, and for expresses and other small charges, of which the Congress have not been able to procure exact accounts; and that the said committee do lay before the Congress, at their next meeting, an account of their proceedings in that matter.

Whereas, at a former Congress, it was resolved, that, if certain acts of parliament, in the continental association enumerated and complained of, should not be repealed on or before the tenth day of September, 1775, the inhabitants of these United Colonies would not, directly or indirectly, export any merchandise or commodity whatsoever, to Great-Britain, Ireland, or the West-Indies; and as some doubts have arisen with respect to the true spirit and construction of said resolve; to the end, that such doubts may be removed,

**Resolved,** That under the prohibition, in the said association contained, to export to, or import from, the islands of Great-Britain and Ireland, this Congress intends to comprise all exportation to, or importation from, the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay, and Man, and every European island and settlement within the British dominions; and that under the denomination of the West-Indies, this Congress means to comprehend all the West-India islands, British and foreign, to whatever state, power, or prince belonging, or by whomsoever governed, and also the Summer islands, Bahama islands, Berbicia and Surinam on the Main, and every island and settlement within the latitude of the southern line of Georgia and the equator.

Adjourned to Tuesday, the fifth of September next.

The above is a copy of the journal of the proceedings of the Congress, from their meeting on the tenth of May, to this time, except that some resolutions, relative to military operations, carrying on, are omitted.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

# JOURNALS OF CONGRESS.

1775.

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WEDNESDAY, *September 5, 1775.*

AGREEABLE to adjournment, the president and a number of the members met, but there not being sufficient to enter upon business, the Congress was adjourned from day to day until Wednesday the 13th.

WEDNESDAY, *September 13, 1775.*

Met according to adjournment.

The province of Georgia, having appointed delegates to represent that colony in Congress, and three of the delegates attending, their credentials were produced, read, and approved, and are as follows :

*Georgia.* The alarming and critical situation of affairs upon the continent of America, having, at length, roused the attention of this province, and the several inhabitants thereof, being desirous of uniting with their sister colonies in the great and important cause, a general election was held throughout the province for delegates to sit in provincial Congress; and the said delegates having so met in Savannah, on the fourth day of July, proceeded upon the consideration of such business as appeared to be fit and necessary; and among other things, they made choice of five delegates to represent this province in the grand Continental Congress, now sitting in Philadelphia, viz. Archibald Bullock, esq. John Houston, esq. the rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones, esq. and Lyman Hall, esq. Now, therefore, be it known, and we, the several delegates for the different parishes and districts in this province, in provincial Congress assembled, do hereby declare the said Archibald Bullock and John Houston, esqrs. the rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones, and Lyman Hall, esqrs. duly and fairly elected, as the delegates, for this province; and we do authorize and require the said Archibald Bullock, and John Houston, esqrs. the rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones, and Lyman Hall, esqrs. or any three of them, immediately to repair to the said city of Philadelphia, and there to take their seats, as the representatives of the province of Georgia, in the general Congress now sitting, to do, transact, join and concur with the several delegates from the other colonies and provinces upon this continent, in all such matters and things as shall appear eligible and fit, at this alarming time, for the preservation and defence of our rights and liberties, and for the restoration of harmony upon constitutional principles, between Great-Britain and America.

And we give and grant to the said Archibald Bullock, and John Houston, esqrs. the rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones, and Lyman Hall, esqrs. or any three of them, in whose fidelity, honor, and ability we very much confide, our full and whole power in the premises; and do promise and engage, in behalf of ourselves and our constituents respectively, (the inhabitants of the province of Georgia) under the sacred ties of virtue, honor, and love of our country, to abide by, enforce, and carry into execution, or endeavour, at the risque and expense of life and property, so to do, all and whatsoever our said delegates, or any three of them, in concurrence with the rest of the delegates from the several colonies and provinces upon this continent, shall resolve and agree upon, or, as shall be agreed and resolved upon by the said Continental

Congress, now sitting in Philadelphia aforesaid, while our said delegates or any three of them shall be so sitting.

Signed in provincial Congress, this fifteenth day of July, 1775, by 53 members.

The delegates from Virginia, appointed by a convention of that colony, at Richmond, August 11, 1775, produced their credentials, which were read and approved, as follows:

**VIRGINIA, IN CONVENTION, August 11, 1775.**

The convention being about to proceed to the choice of deputies to represent this colony in general Congress, Edmund Pendleton, esq. expressed his most grateful acknowledgments for the honor done him in two former appointments to that important trust, but, on account of the declining state of his health, entreated to be excused from the present nomination, which excuse being accepted.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That the thanks of this convention are justly due to George Washington, Patrick Henry, and Edmund Pendleton, esqrs. three of the worthy deputies, who represented this colony in the late Continental Congress, for their faithful discharge of that important trust, and this body are only induced to dispense with their future services of the like nature, by the appointment of the two former to other offices in the public service, incompatible with their attendance on this, and the infirm state of health of the latter.

The convention then proceeded to the appointment of deputies to represent this colony in general Congress, for one year, and the members having prepared tickets, with the names of the deputies to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. Robert Carter Nicholas, Mr. Cary, Mr. Pendleton, and Mr. Adams were appointed to examine the ballot-box, and report upon whom the majority fell, who retired, and after some time, returned into convention, and reported, that they had, according to order, examined the ballot-box, and that the numbers appeared as follows:

For the hon. Peyton Randolph, esq.	89	For the hon. Thomas Nelson, esq.	66
Richard Henry Lee, esq.	88	Richard Bland, esq.	61
Thomas Jefferson, esq.	85	George Wythe, esq.	58
Benjamin Harrison, esq.	83		

*Resolved,* That the said Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Richard Bland, and George Wythe, esqrs. be appointed deputies to represent this colony in general Congress for one year, and that they have power to meet and to adjourn for such time and to such place or places as may be thought most proper.

*Resolved,* That the said deputies, or any four of them, be a sufficient number to represent this colony.

**SATURDAY, August 12, 1775.**

Richard Bland, esq. returned this convention his most grateful acknowledgments for the great honor they had pleased a third time to confer on him, by appointing him one of the deputies to represent this colony in general Congress, and said that this fresh instance of their approbation was sufficient for an old man, almost deprived of sight, whose greatest ambition had ever been to receive the plaudit of his country, whenever he should retire from the public stage of life: That the honorable testimony he lately received of this approbation, joined with his present appointment, should ever animate him, as far as he was able, to support the glorious cause in which America is now engaged, but that his advanced age rendered him incapable of taking an active part in those weighty and important concerns, which must necessarily be agitated in the great council of the United Colonies; and, therefore, begging leave to decline the honor they had been pleased to confer on him, and desiring that some person, more fit and able, might supply his place.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of this convention are justly due to the said Richard Bland, esq. one of the worthy deputies who represented this colony in the late Continental Congress, for his faithful discharge of that important trust, and this body are only induced to dispense with his future services of the like nature, on account of his advanced age.

TUESDAY, *August 15, 1775.*

The convention proceeded to the appointment of a deputy to represent this colony in general Congress, in the room of Richard Bland, esq. who hath resigned, and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the deputy to be appointed, a committee was appointed to examine the ballot-box, and report on whom the majority fell; who retired, and after some time, reported that the numbers stood as follows:

Francis Lightfoot Lee, esq. . . 37 | Carter Braxton, esq. . . . 36

*Resolved*, That the said Francis Lightfoot Lee, esq. be appointed a deputy to represent this colony in general Congress.

(Signed)

JOHN TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention.*

The delegates from Maryland also produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read and approved, as follows:

At a meeting of the delegates appointed by the several counties of the province of Maryland, at the city of Annapolis, on Wednesday, the 26th of July, 1775, and continued till the 14th day of August, in the same year:

*Resolved*, That the honorable Matthew Tilghman, esq. and Thomas Johnson, jun. Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Samuel Chase, Thomas Stone, and John Hall, esqrs. or any three or more of them, be deputies to represent this province in Continental Congress, and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures, which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of American grievances; and further, we do authorize our said deputies, to represent and act for this province in any continental Congress, which may be held before the 25th day of March next.

(Signed)

G. DUVALL, *Clerk.*

The Congress being informed that only 172,520 dollars have been transmitted to the pay-master general for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, and that the general was under great difficulty for want of money:

*Ordered*, That the delegates for Pennsylvania do immediately send, under a proper guard, to the pay-master general, for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, the sum of 527,480 dollars, which, with that sent, will make up the sum of 700,000 dollars voted at the last session.

Sundry letters received during the recess of Congress, were produced and read, viz.

Two from general Washington, No. 4, and 5, with sundry enclosed papers; four from general Schuyler, 16th and 21st of July, and 2d and 31st of August, with sundry papers enclosed.

One from Messrs. L. Morris, and J. Wilson, of 6th September.

One from G. Bedford, deputy muster-master general, with enclosed papers.

Also, a letter from the deputies of the several districts in the island of Bermuda, dated 12th of August, with an account of the provisions imported and expended in that island, for three years last past, taken from the custom-house books, and an estimate of the provisions necessary for the support of the inhabitants for one year.

A memorial from James Stewart and Samuel Jackson, owners of the ship Friendship, Thomas Jann, master, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth that the said ship, on the 28th of August last, sailed from Maryland with a cargo of tobacco, but being overtaken by the late storm, she was driven on

shoals and much damaged, and got into Hampton road, with the loss of all her masts; and praying that the memorialists may be allowed to unload said ship, and that after being refitted, she may take the said cargo on board, and proceed on her voyage.

The Congress, taking into consideration the above memorial,

**Resolved**, That the said cargo be unloaded under the inspection of the committee of Norfolk, and that the said ship, being refitted, be allowed to take said cargo on board again, and proceed on her voyage; and in case, on examination, the said ship is condemned as unfit for sea, that the said cargo be put on board some other vessel, under the inspection of the committee aforesaid, and exported.

Information being given to Congress, that Dr. Franklin had on board the *Mary and Elizabeth*, capt. N. Falconer, from London, sundry cases, containing his books, papers, and household furniture, which were in his use when he lived in London, and which were imported for his own use, and not for sale; and it being submitted to the consideration of the Congress, whether such importation is comprehended within the first article of association,

**Resolved**, That such importation is not to be comprehended within the meaning of the said first article of the association, and that the said books, papers, and furniture may be landed and delivered to the owner.

A memorial from the committee of the county of Westmoreland, in the province of Pennsylvania, was presented and read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *September 14, 1775.*

A number of letters received by several members, during the recess of Congress, being produced, were read:

First, a letter from Joseph Hawley, esq. excusing his not acting as a commissioner for Indian affairs, on account of his bad state of health.

Second, a letter from Elisha Phelps, appointed a commissary for the northern army by governor Trumbull, in pursuance of an order of Congress, together with a copy of his commission and appointment.

Third, a letter from J. Reade, esq. secretary to general Washington, among other things, intimating the desire of the general, that the clothing lately intercepted by the committee of Philadelphia, should be forwarded to the camp for the use of the American army.

**Ordered**, That the above clothing be immediately forwarded, under a proper guard, by the delegates of Pennsylvania, to general Washington, for the use of the American army.

Fourth, a letter from the committee of safety in New York, with an enclosed copy of a letter from general Washington:

These being taken into consideration,

**Ordered**, That the delegates for Pennsylvania prepare and lay before the Congress to-morrow, an account of the powder belonging to the United Colonies, received, and how it is disposed of, also an account of all the powder now in this city.

**Resolved**, That Edward Flemming, esq. be appointed deputy adjutant-general for the army in the New-York or northern department, with the rank of a colonel, and that the president make out a commission for him accordingly, and forward the same by the first opportunity.

**Resolved**, That the president forward to general Schuyler four hundred blank commissions for the officers in his army, to be by him filled up, agreeable to the order of Congress.

Fifth, sundry letters from general Schuyler, which being taken into consideration,

**Resolved**, That Samuel Stringer, esq. be appointed director of the hospital, and chief physician and surgeon for the army in the northern department.

That the pay of the said Samuel Stringer, as director, physician, and surgeon, be four dollars per day.

That he be authorized and have power to appoint a number of surgeon's mates under him, not exceeding four.

That the pay of said mates be two-thirds of a dollar per day.

That the number be not kept in constant pay, unless the sick and wounded be so numerous as to require the constant attendance of four, and to be diminished as circumstances will admit, for which reason the pay is fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

That the deputy commissary general be directed to pay Dr. Stringer for the medicines he has purchased for the use of the army, and that he purchase and forward such other medicines as general Schuyler shall, by his warrant, direct, for the use of said army.

That Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Jay, Mr. J. Adams. and Mr. Lewis, be a committee to devise ways and means for supplying the continental army with medicines.

The delegates for Pennsylvania appointed, at the last session, a committee to settle and pay the expenses incurred for raising and arming the rifle companies, as well as those incurred in consequence of a resolve for raising a company of hussars, and for expresses, &c. informed the Congress, that, on account of sundry difficulties, they had not executed that service, and desired that some members from other colonies, where debts have been contracted, may be added; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Chase, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Crane, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane, be added to the delegates for Pennsylvania, and that any five of them be a quorum to settle and pay the above accounts, and make report of their proceedings to Congress.

The delegates from the colony of Georgia informed the Congress, that, agreeable to an order from their constituents, they had sundry papers from that colony to lay before the Congress.

The papers, being produced, were read.

The commissioners for Indian affairs, in the northern department, having transmitted to the Congress the minutes of a treaty held with the Six Nations at Albany, in August, the same were read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the letter received from Messrs. L. Morris, and J. Wilson, of the 6th inst.

*Resolved*, That col. Lewis Morris, who is now at Pittsburg, be, and he is hereby empowered to act as a commissioner for Indian affairs in the middle department, at the treaty proposed to be held there on the 23d instant, Dr. Franklin, the standing commissioner, not being able to attend.

*Ordered*, That the president write to Messrs. Morris and Wilson, and inform them of the foregoing resolution

Adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, September 15, 1775.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Thomas Walker be appointed a commissioner for Indian affairs in the middle department, in the room of P. Henry, esq. who has declined that service.

The delegates from Georgia informed the Congress, that when the convention of that colony agreed to enter into the continental association, they resolved, among other things, "that if any vessel arrived from Great-Britain, between the sixth day of July and the sixth of August, the goods imported should, at the option of the importer, either be re-shipped, or put into store, and there remain until the Congress determined what should be done with them."—That during that time two vessels had arrived with goods, which were stored; they therefore desired the determination of the Congress on that matter.

After some debate thereon,

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the convention of Georgia, to cause the cargoes, which have arrived there from Great-Britain or Ireland, between the sixth day of July and the sixth day of August, at the election of the proprietors, either to be sent back or sold at public auction; that out of the monies arising from such sales, the proprietors or shippers, be paid the prime cost of said cargoes, and all charges attending the same, and that the overplus be retained by the said convention, and by them applied toward putting their province into a posture of defence.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, September 16, 1775.**

The delegates from New-Hampshire attended in Congress, and produced their credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows:

**COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, IN CONGRESS, AT EXETER, August 23, 1775.**

**Voted**, That colonel Josiah Bartlett be appointed in the room and stead of John Sullivan, esq. now engaged in the army, in conjunction with captain John Langdon, to represent this colony in the Congress of the United Colonies at Philadelphia, and that either of them, in the absence of the other, have full power to represent this colony at said Congress.

(Signed)

**MATTHEW THORNTON, President.**

A true copy from the journal,

Attest,

**E. THOMSON, Secretary.**

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letters from general Washington, No. 4, 5, and 6, and one since received, but not numbered; and after debate,

**Resolved**, That the further consideration of them be deferred till Monday next.

**Resolved**, That this Congress will, on Wednesday next, take into consideration the state of the trade of America.

Adjourned till Monday next, nine o'clock.

**MONDAY, September 18, 1775.**

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the riflemen, &c. laid before the Congress the account of Mr. West and Mr. Donaldson, amounting to 5303 62-90 dollars, money by them advanced for the purchase of rifles and shirts, &c. for the privates of several companies, which is charged to the respective companies, and for blankets and ammunition supplied them, which is charged to the continent, which account the committee have examined and find just.

**Ordered**, That the committee pay the above account.

An express arriving with letters from general Schuyler, dated Isle-aux-Noix, September 8th, and the same being read,

**Resolved**, That the consideration of the letters from general Washington, be deferred till to-morrow.

**Resolved**, That the Congress will, to-morrow, take into consideration the letters from general Schuyler.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

**TUESDAY, September 19, 1775.**

The Congress took into consideration the letters from general Schuyler:

**Ordered**, That the Secretary publish an authentic account of the intelligence received.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Deane, Mr. Chase, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay, be a committee to prepare the draught of a letter to general Schuyler.

A motion being made in behalf of one Col. John Fenton, who had been taken into custody by the convention of New-Hampshire, for being concerned

in measures dangerous to the rights of Americans, and who, by order of the general, now remains, on his parole, a prisoner at Hartford; that he may be permitted to go to Great-Britain or Ireland,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be instructed to discharge the said Col. John Fenton from custody, on his giving his parole of honor to proceed to New-York, and from thence to Great-Britain or Ireland, and not to take up arms against the good people of this continent.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, take into consideration the letters from general Washington.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, September 20, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the president write to the provincial convention of New-York, or the committee of safety, directing them immediately to equip and send forward the whole of the troops ordered to be raised, to join general Schuyler, with all possible expedition.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to general Schuyler, brought in the same, which being debated, corrected and approved,

*Ordered*, That it be signed by the president and forwarded immediately.

*Ordered*, That a copy of general Schuyler's letter, and of the enclosed papers, and of the letter sent to general Schuyler, be immediately forwarded to general Washington.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letters from gen. Washington.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Gridly have a commission as a colonel of the artillery.

That the appointment of a brigadier-general be deferred till to-morrow.

The subject of trade to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### THURSDAY, September 21, 1775.

The committee of accounts laid before the Congress sundry accounts, viz.

An account of Timothy Matlack, employed as a clerk, amounting to 162 dollars.

An account of James Milligan, for sundry sail cloth, Russia sheeting, oznabrigs, &c. bought at the desire of Mr. Wilson, by order of the Congress, for the use of the continental army, amounting to 4842 3-90 dollars.

An account from the committee of Berks, advanced for sundry rifle companies, amounting to 5521 1-5 dollars, including a considerable sum advanced to colonel Thompson.

*Ordered*, That the two first be paid immediately, and that the last be referred back to the committee, for examination, and if found just, that they pay it.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of a brigadier-general be deferred.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the general's letters, and thereupon came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That general Washington be ordered to issue commissions to majors Box, Scammel, and Brewer, as brigade-majors.

That the pay of the judge-advocate in the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, for himself and his clerk, be fifty dollars per month, from the time of his appointment.

That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the memorial of the commissary general, and report their opinion on the best means of supplying the army with provisions.

The ballots being brought in and examined, the following persons were elected, viz. Mr. Willing, Mr. Deane, Mr. P. Livingston, Mr. Cushing and Mr. Ward.

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be empowered to nominate and appoint a proper person to the office of brigade-major, in the army under his command, and to issue a commission accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, take into consideration the state of the trade of North-America.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *September 22, 1775.*

The committee of claims reported, that the account of Andrew M'Neare, door-keeper, for his service, amounting to 57.8 dollars, is reasonable, and ought to be paid.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Sundry letters were laid before the Congress and read, viz.

Two from the committee of safety in New-York, with sundry papers enclosed.

One from Mr. Morris and Mr. Wilson, dated Pittsburg, September 14, with sundry papers enclosed.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania, having informed the Congress that they have taken into custody major Rogers, an officer in the king's service,

*Resolved*, That in case the committee find nothing against major Rogers, except that of his being a half-pay officer, he be discharged, on giving his parole not to take up arms against the inhabitants of America in the present controversy between Great-Britain and America.

The order of the day being read,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the state of the trade of America, and report their opinion.

That the committee consist of seven.

The ballots being taken and examined, the following persons were chosen, viz. Dr. Franklin, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Jay, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Willing.

The committee of claims reported, that the account of William Shed, amounting to 48 dollars, for his services as messenger, last session, is reasonable, and ought to be paid.

*Ordered*, That the above account be paid.

Adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

SATURDAY, *September 23, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to purchase a quantity of woollen goods for the use of the army, to the amount of five thousand pounds sterling.

That the said goods, when bought, be placed in the hands of the quarter-masters general of the continental armies, and that the same be by them sold out to the private soldiers of said armies, at prime cost and charges, including a commission of five per centum to the said quarter-masters general for their trouble.

That the committee consist of five.

The ballot being taken and examined, the following members were chosen: Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Willing, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Langdon.

The committee of claims produced two receipts for money received of James Whitehead.

One signed by Richard Brown, a captain of one of the rifle companies from Maryland, for fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency, 133 1-5 dollars.

The other signed by Michael Cressop, a captain of the other rifle company from Maryland, for one hundred pounds Pennsylvania currency, 266 2-3 dollars, received for the use of their respective companies, marching to Cambridge in the continental service.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid to James Whitehead, and charged to the respective companies.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to devise ways and means of supply-

ing the army with medicines, do buy a parcel of drugs in the hands of Mr. Rapalje, which he offers at the prime cost.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday next.

### MONDAY, *September 25, 1775.*

The Congress took into consideration the letters from general Washington, No. 5, and 6, and two others not numbered.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an answer.

The ballots being taken and examined, the following members were chosen, viz. Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Adams.

The committee of claims having represented to the Congress, that in consequence of the order of Congress, dated the first of August last, they have drawn out of the treasury the sum of 10,000 dollars, and that over and above, they have drawn on the treasurers for the further sum of 1,926 1-4 dollars, to discharge sundry accounts, which the Congress ordered them to pay, they therefore move that the Congress will issue an order for the same to indemnify the treasurers.

The congress taking this matter into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the committee's draught for the above sum be deemed valid, and allowed good in the treasurer's accounts.

As accounts are brought in different from those committed to the foregoing committee to liquidate, and as it is proper that the accounts of the continent be put into a proper train of liquidation and settlement, in order for payment,

*Resolved*, That a committee of accounts or claims be now appointed to consist of one member from each of the United Colonies, to whom all accounts against the continent are to be referred, who are to examine and report upon the same, in order for payment, seven of them to be a quorum.

That the committee consist of the following members, viz. Mr. Langdon, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Ward, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Smith, Mr. Willing, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Zubly.

That the former committee deliver to the committee now appointed, all the books, accounts, and papers in their hands.

The delegates from Pennsylvania produced an account of the powder imported, and how it has been disposed of.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from Messrs. Morris and Wilson, of 14th September, with the enclosed papers, and after some debate, the same was referred till to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, *September 26, 1775.*

The order of the day was called for, but as the delegates for Virginia and Pennsylvania were not present, the consideration of the letters and papers from Messrs. Morris and Wilson was deferred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to General Washington's letters, reported the same, which was read, debated, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the same being transcribed, be signed by the president, and be forwarded immediately.

The committee appointed to examine the journal of the Congress during the last sessions, in order for the press, reported a copy, which was in part read.

*Ordered*, That the remainder be read to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *September 27, 1775.*

The committee of claims applied to the Congress for advice how to charge sundry accounts, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the expense of kettles, canteens, and spoons, supplied to the soldiers, be charged to the continent.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 160,000 dollars be paid to Connecticut, for supplies issued by that colony for the service of the United Colonies, to be accounted for by them.

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion, the following accounts were reasonable, and ought to be paid.

A balance due to Robert Erwin, wagon-master, amounting to 887 1-15 of a dollar.

An account of George Frank, for riding express, amounting to 38 dollars.

An account of the committee of Northampton county, for money advanced for sundry rifle companies, amounting to 3182 39-90 of a dollar.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to examine the journals of the last sessions, and the same being read,

*Ordered*, That the journal, as now corrected, be published by the secretary, and that he superintend and correct the press.

A memorial of Samuel and Robert Purviance, was presented and read, setting forth, that they had chartered a vessel to cary a load of wheat, that the said vessel in going from Philadelphia to Chester-Town, Maryland, was lost in the late storm, by which they were prevented from exporting, before the 10th of September, the cargo which they had actually purchased; and therefore praying for liberty to export the cargo to a foreign port.

*Ordered*, to lie on the table.

Certain resolutions of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, respecting an application made to them by a captain, for leave to take a cargo of flour to Gloucester, in Massachusetts-Bay, were laid before the Congress and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Friday.

#### FRIDAY, September 29, 1775.

A letter from general Washington, dated the 21st of September, with sundry enclosed papers, being received by express, was laid before Congress and read.

The committee of claims reported, as their opinion, that the following accounts ought to be paid:

A balance due to John Powell, for riding express, amounting to 45 1-3 dollars.

An account of Matthias Slough, for money advanced to the rifle companies, amounting to 710 64-90 dollars.

An account of James Alexander for riding express, a balance due to him, amounting to 172 26-90 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That when any accounts are ordered to be paid, the orders be drawn on the treasurers and signed by the president.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three members be appointed to repair immediately to the camp at Cambridge, to confer with general Washington, and with the governor of Connecticut, lieutenant-governor of Rhode-Island, the council of Massachusetts, and the president of the convention of New-Hampshire, and such other persons as to the said committee shall seem proper, touching the most effectual method of continuing, supporting, and regulating a continental army.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of said committee be deferred till to-morrow.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *September 30, 1775.*

The Congress proceeded to the election of a committee, and the ballots being examined, Mr. Lynch and Dr. Franklin were found to be duly elected by a majority of votes, and two other members having an equal number,

*Resolved*, That the Congress proceed to the election of another member for the committee, and that this rule be observed in all similar cases.

Accordingly, the ballots being taken, the committee of examination reported, that Mr. Harrison is duly elected.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to draw up instructions for the above committee.

The ballots being taken, the following members were chosen: Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Lee, Mr. Johnson, Mr. R. Livingston, and Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the president inform general Washington, by express, of the resolution of Congress, appointing a committee to wait on him, in order to consult with him, touching the most effectual method of continuing, supporting, and regulating a continental army.

That a letter to the same import be written to the governor of Connecticut, and that the president therein request him, in case he cannot himself attend, that he will appoint a person to represent that colony, and confer with the committee of the Congress on the subjects entrusted to them.

That like letters be written to the council of Massachusetts-Bay, and to the lieutenant-governor of Rhode-Island, and to the president of the convention of New-Hampshire.

The committee of claims reported, that in their opinion, the following accounts ought to be paid, viz.

A certificate presented by William Hall, signed by captain Daniel Morgan, for necessaries furnished by George Kyser to his company, another certificate presented by said W. Hall, and signed by said D. Morgan, for necessaries furnished his company by Mesheck Sexton, both the above sums, amounting in the whole to 71 2-3 dollars, to be charged to said Morgan's company.

An account of necessaries furnished by John Jordan, of Lancaster, for captain Ross and captain Smith's companies of riflemen, amounting to 432 1-5 dollars, to be charged to the continent.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to consider the trade of America, brought in their report, which was read, and referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, *October 2, 1775.*

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on trade, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies.

That the above report be referred to that committee.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions, reported a draught, which being read and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That a fair copy be made out and delivered to the committee appointed to wait on the general.

*Resolved*, That where the word month is used, the Congress means calendar month, by which the pay of the men in the service of the continent is to be regulated.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the second lieutenants in the marching regiments be the same as that of the first lieutenants.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to morrow.

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**TUESDAY, October 3, 1775.**

The committee of claims reported that, in their opinion, the following accounts ought to be paid :

The account of Frederick Bicking for 56 reams of paper for the continental currency, amounting to 388 4-5 dollars.

The account of Samuel Boughman, for the entertainment of capt. Ross's company, amounting to 14.1 dollars.

Two accounts from the committee of Trenton for wagonage and sundry expresses, amounting together to the sum of 103 4-5.

Two accounts delivered in by Casper Weitzal, for expenses for diet and provisions for capt. Lowden's company of riflemen, amounting, together, to the sum of 44.6 dollars.

Two accounts delivered in by Miles and Wistar, for necessities furnished by John Harris, jun. and Elias Younkman, to capt. Lowden's company of riflemen, amounting to 96 dollars, to be charged to the said company.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee of claims further reported an account of Frederick Blankenberg and Leonard Stein, retained as hussars, on which they desired to know the determination of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above named Frederick Blankenberg and Leonard Stein be allowed to retain the clothes made for them; and that, over and above, they be paid 16 dollars each for the time they were retained in service.

*Resolved*, That the commissary general contract for such quantities of beef and pork as may be thought proper by the general, and have the same salted up in convenient houses near the camp, according to his scheme recommended by the general to the consideration of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred thousand dollars be immediately sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army in the Massachusetts Bay.

*Resolved*, That the committee who are appointed to repair to the camp, be requested to take the charge of the above sum, or as much of it as they conveniently can.

*Resolved*, That the expenses of the committee be paid out of the continental treasury.

One of the delegates for Rhode-Island laid before the Congress a part of the instructions given them by their two houses of legislature, August, 26, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will on Friday next take the above into consideration.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to repair to the camp, do confer with Mr. Rittenhouse, and enquire of him whether he apprehends he can be of service to the continent as an engineer, and, if he can, to engage him, and desire he would, with all convenient speed, repair to the camp.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of these colonies.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, October 4, 1775.**

The committee of claims reported that, in their opinion, the following account ought to be paid.

An account of the committee of Bedford county, for necessities furnished to the company of riflemen raised therein, amounting to 755 1-3 dollars, of which sum 128 2-3 dollars ought to be charged to the continent, and the remaining sum of 626 2-3 dollars ought to be charged to capt. Robert Cluggage's company, as so much of their pay advanced to them.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

Two members who undertook to receive and count the money, for which an order passed yesterday, to be sent to the pay-master general, reported that they found only 189,467 dollars ready in the treasury, which they received and have packed up ready to be sent forward, for which they gave their own receipts, and now return the order drawn by the president.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies, and, after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to any resolution, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, October 5, 1775.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies, and, after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that not having come to any resolution, they desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies.

Sundry letters from London were laid before the Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a plan for intercepting two vessels, which are on their way to Canada, laden with arms and powder, and that the committee proceed on this business immediately.

The committee of claims reported, that, in their opinion, the following accounts ought to be paid :

An account of Mrs. Stille, of Trenton, for the expenses of captain Ross, and others, to be charged to the said Ross, until he makes it appear to be just and reasonable, that the same be charged to the continent, amounting to \$276-90 dollars.

An account of Charles Axford, for provisions for captain Ross's company, amounting to 8 3-90 dollars.

An account rendered by Charity Britton, for provisions for the same company, amounting to 9 66-90 dollars.

An account rendered by Joseph Clunn, for provisions for the same company, amounting to 7 86-90 dollars.

An account of William and Thomas Bradford, for printing, amounting to 178 7-90 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That Timothy Matlack, of this city, be employed as a store-keeper, and that the implements provided for the hussars, and the tents and linen, &c. purchased for the army, be put under his care.

The committee appointed to prepare a plan for intercepting the two vessels bound to Canada, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a letter be sent to general Washington, to inform him, that Congress having received certain intelligence of the sailing of two north country built brigs, of no force, from England, on the 11th of August last, loaded with arms, powder, and other stores, for Quebec, without convoy, which it being of importance to intercept, desire that he apply to the council of Mas-

sachusetts-Bay, for the two armed vessels in their service, and despatch the same, with a sufficient number of people, stores, &c. particularly a number of oars, in order, if possible, to intercept the said two brigs and their cargoes, and secure the same for the use of the continent; also, any other transports laden with ammunition, clothing, or other stores, for the use of the ministerial army or navy in America, and secure them in the most convenient places for the purpose abovementioned; that he give the commander or commanders such instructions as are necessary, as also proper encouragement to the marines and seamen, that shall be sent on this enterprize, which instructions are to be delivered to the commander or commanders sealed up, with orders not to open the same until out of sight of land, on account of secrecy.

That a letter be written to the said honorable council, to put the said vessels under the general's command and direction, and to furnish him instantly with every necessary in their power, at the expense of the continent.

That the general be directed to employ the said vessels and others, if he judge necessary, to effect the purposes aforesaid; and that he be informed that the Rhode-Island and Connecticut vessels of force will be sent directly to their assistance.

That a letter be wrote to governor Cooke, informing him of the above, desiring him to despatch one or both the armed vessels of the colony of Rhode-Island on the same service, and that he use the precautions abovementioned.

That a letter be written to governor Trumbull, requesting of him the largest vessel in the service of the colony of Connecticut, to be sent on the enterprize aforesaid, acquainting him with the above particulars, and recommending the same precautions.

That the said ships and vessels of war be on the continental risque and pay, during their being so employed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, October 6, 1775.

Two letters from general Schuyler, dated Ticonderoga, 25th and 28th September, with sundry papers enclosed, were read.

*Resolved*, That orders issue to the continental treasurers, to collect for continental bills, a quantity of silver and gold, not exceeding 53,200 dollars in value, for the use of the army in Canada.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several provincial assemblies or conventions, and councils or committees of safety, to arrest and secure every person in their respective colonies, whose going at large may, in their opinion, endanger the safety of the colony, or the liberties of America.

*Ordered*, That an authentic copy of the last resolve be transmitted by the delegates to proper persons in their respective colonies.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed for the importation of powder, be directed to export, agreeable to the continental association, as much provisions or other produce of these colonies, as they shall judge expedient for the purchase of arms and ammunition.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from New-York, respecting the fortifications ordered to be erected on Hudson's river,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to report to-morrow morning an answer to the convention of New-York.

The following members were chosen by ballot, viz: Mr. Morton, Mr. Deane, and Mr. R. Livingston.

The committee appointed to prepare a plan, &c. brought in a farther report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, for the perusal of the members.

The order of the day was renewed, and the consideration of the instructions

given to the delegates of Rhode-Island, referred to this day, was put off to Monday 16th instant.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, October 7, 1775.**

*Ordered,* That the president draw on the treasurers, in favor of Francis Lewis, John Alsop, Thomas Willing, Silas Deane, and John Langdon, esqrs. for the sum of five thousand pounds sterling, to pay for the goods they were ordered to purchase for the use of the continental army.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, brought in their report, which being read and debated, was agreed to, as follows:

That the provincial convention of New-York be directed immediately to render Hudson's river defensible; that in doing this they be particularly attentive to form such works as may be finished before the winter sets in. As it is very doubtful whether any stone work can be properly made at this advanced season, it is submitted to the judgment of the said convention, whether it could not be more cheaply and expeditiously done by works of wood or fascines. If they should think otherwise, that they be directed to go on with the work in the way which they think best, since it is the opinion of the Congress that the work should by no means be neglected.

But if the work be already begun on the plan sent us, that they render such parts as can be first finished defensible, so that the labour be not thrown away, if an attack should be made before the whole can be finished.

That the convention be directed to enquire whether there are not some other places where small batteries might be erected, so as to annoy the enemy on their passage, particularly, a few heavy cannon at or near Moore's house, and at a point on the west shore, a little above Verplank's point.

That it be recommended to said convention, to establish, at proper distances, posts to be ready to give intelligence to the country, in case of any invasion, or by signals to give alarms in case of danger, and that they confer with the assembly of Connecticut, and convention of New-Jersey, on the speediest manner of conveying intelligence in such cases, and receiving assistance when necessary.

That the convention be farther directed to take the most effectual method to obstruct the navigation of the said river, if, upon examination, they find it practicable.

*Resolved,* That orders be sent to general Wooster, in case he has no orders to the contrary from general Schuyler, that he immediately return to the batteries erecting in the highlands, and there leave as many of his troops, as the conductors of the work shall think necessary for completing them, and that he repair with the remainder to New-York.

A member from Pennsylvania laid before the Congress a resolve passed in the house of assembly, in these words:

**"IN ASSEMBLY, September 30, 1775.**

"The house taking into consideration the several letters sent down yesterday by the governor, acquainting him with the intrusion of a number of people into this province, under a pretended claim of the colony of Connecticut, to the great annoyance of the good people of this province:

*"Resolved,* That the delegates for this province, be specially directed to lay the same before the Congress, with the mischievous tendency the pursuing such measures will have, and procure the aid of that assembly to quiet the minds of the good people of this province, and prevent further intrusion or extension of settlements under the said claim, until the matter shall be determined by the king and council, to whom both sides have submitted the dispute.

Extract from the journals,

**CHARLES MOORE, Clerk of Assembly."**

**Resolved**, That the same be referred to the delegates for Connecticut and Pennsylvania, who are desired to report thereon on Monday next.

**Resolved**, That the letter from Messrs. Morris and Wilson of the 14th of September, be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, October 9, 1775.**

A letter from Joseph Trumbull, commissary-general, dated September 23, 1775, was read, desiring that  $\$$  500 lawful money, 1666  $\frac{2}{3}$  dollars be paid to Mr. Tracy, for money by him advanced to colonel Arnold, for the use of the continent, and that the same be charged to his account.

**Ordered**, That the president draw on the treasurers for the above sum in favour of Mr. Tracy, and that the same be charged as above.

A letter from general Schuyler, dated the 19th of September, with one enclosed from general Montgomery, and sundry other papers, were read.

**Resolved**, That a committee of five members be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report an answer.

The following members chosen, viz. Mr. J. Adams, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, Mr. R. Livingston, and Mr. Deane.

The delegates of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, informing the Congress, that they were not yet ready to make a report on the matters referred to them,

**Ordered**, That they prepare and bring in their report on Wednesday next.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the convention of New-Jersey, that they immediately raise, at the expense of the continent, two battalions, consisting of eight companies each, and each company of sixty-eight privates, officered with one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four serjeants, and four corporals.

That the privates be inlisted for one year, at the rate of five dollars per calendar month, liable to be discharged at any time, on allowing them one month's pay extraordinary.

That each of the privates be allowed, instead of a bounty, one felt hat, a pair of yarn stockings, and a pair of shoes; the men to find their own arms.

That the pay of the officers, for the present, be the same as that of the officers in the present continental army, and in case the pay of the officers in the army is augmented, the pay of the officers in these battalions shall, in like manner, be augmented from the time of their engaging in the service.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, October 10, 1775.**

The committee of claims reported the following accounts reasonable, and which ought to be paid, viz.

The account of Du Simitiere, for translating the address of the United Colonies, to the inhabitants of Quebec, amounting to eight dollars.

William Govett's account of the expenses of a party of twenty-seven men, escorting powder to Trenton, amounting to 67.2 dollars.

David Rittenhouse's for thirty-six cuts for continental money, amounting to 48 dollars.

John Thornton's account of provisions and ferriage for part of captain Ross's company, amounting to 10 dollars.

Christopher Ludwig's account for sundry expenses in forwarding powder to Ticonderoga, amounting to 41.2 dollars.

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to general Schuyler's letters, reported a draught, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

A motion being made relative to the appointment of officers in the continental army, and the same being largely debated, the determination thereon was deferred till to-morrow.

The order of the day was renewed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *October 11, 1775.*

A list of the matters referred to this day being read,

The delegates of Connecticut and Pennsylvania were called on to report, on the matter referred to them, but not being yet ready,

*Ordered*, That they meet this afternoon, and prepare a report to be laid before Congress to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported that the following accounts ought to be paid, viz.

The account of the committee of Elizabeth-Town, for cartage, expresses, and for provisions to captain Ross's company, amounting to 98.3 dollars, of which 32.3 dollars to be charged to captain Ross.

James Leslie's account of necessaries furnished to captain Ross's company, amounting to 14.8 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the motion made yesterday, respecting the appointment of officers, and after debate, the same was postponed.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to report what subsistence ought to be allowed to the officers and soldiers in the continental service, when on their march, and in quarters, before they join the army.

The members chosen, Mr. Kinsey, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Langdon.

The Congress took into consideration the letter to general Schuyler, which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The committee appointed on the subsistence, &c. brought in their report, which being read, was ordered to lie on the table to be taken up to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### THURSDAY, *October 12, 1775.*

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee respecting subsistence for the soldiers, &c.

*Resolved*, That each captain and other commissioned officer, while in the recruiting service of this continent, or on their march to join the army, shall be allowed two dollars and two thirds of a dollar per week, for their subsistence, and that the men who enlist shall each of them, whilst in quarters, be allowed one dollar per week, and when on their march to join the army, one dollar and one third of a dollar for the same purpose.

*Resolved*, That the president transmit to the convention of New-Jersey, blank commissions, to be filled up by the said convention, to the captains and subaltern officers in the two battalions to be raised in that colony; and that the appointment of the field officers be for the present suspended, until the Congress come to a determination on that matter.

John Penn, esq. one of the delegates for North-Carolina, appeared in Congress, and produced his credentials, which being read, were approved, and are as follows.

NORTH-CAROLINA, HILLSBOROUGH. IN CONGRESS, *8th Sept. 1775.*

"Mr. Caswell informed the Congress, that as they had done him the honor to appoint him treasurer of the southern district of this province, and one of the signers of the public bills of credit, his attending those duties would ren-

der it entirely out of his power to attend the Continental Congress, as one of the delegates of this province, he therefore requested this Congress would be pleased to appoint some other gentleman in his stead. Whereupon, it is resolved, that John Penn, esq. be, and he is hereby appointed a delegate in behalf of this province, in conjunction with William Hooper, and Joseph Hewes, esqrs. and that he be invested with the same power, and entitled to the like allowance, that the said Richard Caswell would have been vested with, and entitled to, under a former resolution of this Congress.

By order, signed,

SAMUEL JOHNSON, *President.*  
ANDREW KNOX, *Secretary.*

The committee of claims reported their opinion that the following accounts ought to be paid :

Two accounts of Peter Cooper, one for several articles furnished capt. Cresop's company in Lancaster, amounting to 2 1-5 dollars, to be charged to said company. The other for 34 pair of boots, made by him for the hussar company, amounting to 113 1-3 dollars.

Francis Wade's account of expenses for himself and a party of eighteen men escorting governor Skene and Mr. Lundy to New York, amounting to 445 65-90 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assembly or committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to raise one battalion on the same terms as those ordered to be raised in New Jersey, and to be officered in like manner.

*Resolved*, That the men to be enlisted be furnished at the continental expense, with a hunting shirt, not exceeding in value 1 1-8 dollar, and a blanket, if to be procured, but not to be made part of the terms of enlistment.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the trade of the thirteen United Colonies.

The other matters referred to this day, being postponed, the Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, October 13, 1775.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into their further consideration the trade of the thirteen United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Whereupon the order was renewed.

A letter from general Washington, dated 5th of October, with sundry papers enclosed, was read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee appointed to prepare a plan, &c. after some debate,

*Resolved*, That a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted, with all possible despatch, for a cruize of three months, and that the commander be instructed to

cruise eastward, for intercepting such transports as may be laden with warlike stores and other supplies for our enemies, and for such other purposes as the Congress shall direct.

That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an estimate of the expense, and lay the same before the Congress, and to contract with proper persons to fit out the vessel.

*Resolved*, That another vessel be fitted out for the same purposes, and that the said committee report their opinion of a proper vessel, and also an estimate of the expense.

The following members were chosen to compose the committee : Mr. Deane, Mr. Langdon, and Mr. Gadsden.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be referred to Monday next.

The Congress, taking into consideration the memorial of sundry merchants of New-York and Philadelphia, respecting a quantity of tea on hand, which were referred by the Congress at their last session, to be taken up at their next :

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the said memorials, and enquire into the state of facts, and make report thereon to the Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Lee.

The several matters referred to this day, were postponed till to-morrow, to which time the Congress adjourned to meet at nine o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, October 14, 1775.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from general Washington, and the papers enclosed.

*Resolved*, That a director general and chief physician of the hospital in Massachusetts-Bay, be appointed in the room of Dr. Church, who is taken into custody for holding a correspondence with the enemy.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, on Monday next, proceed to the election of a director general and chief physician of the hospital, in the room of doctor Church.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the general's letter be postponed till Monday next.

The delegates for Connecticut informed the Congress that they had met some of the delegates for Pennsylvania, in order to take into consideration the matters referred to them, but not being able to come to any agreement with them, and as the dispute between the people of the two colonies on the waters of the Susquehanna, had proceeded to bloodshed, and, in their apprehension, may be attended with very dangerous consequences, unless speedily prevented, they moved that a committee be appointed out of the other colonies, to take this matter into consideration, and report thereon to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That this be referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, October 16, 1775.

Two letters from the convention of New-Jersey, dated 13th and 14th instant, being read,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

A letter from general Schuyler, dated 5th instant, with sundry papers enclosed, being received and taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 200,000 dollars be sent to the deputy pay-master general for the northern army.

That the delegates of Pennsylvania do immediately count and send forward the above sum under a guard.

*Resolved*, That the ton of powder forwarded last week to New-York, be immediately sent to general Schnyler.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to consider farther ways and means of promoting the manufacture of salt-petre.

The following members chosen, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Rutledge, and Mr. Morton.

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to all persons, who are possessed of the salt-petre lately removed from Turtle-Bay, on the island of New-York, forthwith to send the same to the president of the convention of New York, to be manufactured into gun-powder, for the use of the continental army.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Langdon, Mr. Dyer, and Mr. J. Adams, enquire what quantity of powder has been sent to the northern army, and report by whom sent.

The order of the day being renewed, and the several matters referred to this day postponed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, October 17, 1775.

The Congress, taking into consideration the motion made last Saturday, by the delegates of Connecticut,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to take into consideration the disputes between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and report what in their opinion is proper to be done by Congress.

The members chosen are, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Kinsey, and Mr. Hopkins.

The committee appointed to prepare an estimate, &c. brought in their report, which, after debate, was re-committed.

The committee of claims reported that there is due to Ephraim Martin, for provisions furnished to several rifle companies, 59.3 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A letter from governor Cooke, dated 9th instant, was read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a director-general and chief physician of the hospital, in the room of Dr. Church, and the ballots being examined, Dr. John Morgan, of Philadelphia, was elected.

*Ordered*, That the president write to the convention of New-York, and inform them, that it is the desire of the Congress, that the sulphur in that city be immediately removed to a place of safety.

The several matters referred to this day being postponed, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### WEDNESDAY, October 18, 1775.

The committee on the memorials from sundry merchants in New-York and Philadelphia, brought in their report, which being read, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The delegates from New-Hampshire laid before the Congress, a part of the instructions delivered to them by their colony, in these words:

“ We would have you immediately use your utmost endeavours to obtain the advice and direction of the Congress, with respect to a method for our administering justice, and regulating our civil police. We press you not to delay this matter, as, its being done speedily, will probably prevent the greatest confusion among us.”

*Resolved*, That the consideration of this matter be referred to Monday next.

*Resolved*, That a just and well authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the ministerial troops and navy in America since last March, be collected, with proper evidence of the truth of the facts related, the number and value of the buildings destroyed by them, also the number and value of the vessels inward and outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, as near as the number and value can be ascertained, also the stock taken by them from different parts of the continent.

That a committee of three be appointed for this purpose.

The members chosen are, Mr. Deane, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, October 19, 1775.

The committee of claims reported, that, in their opinion, the following accounts ought to be paid :

The account of the committee of Lancaster, for sundries furnished the rifle companies, amounting to 2213.6 dollars.

The account of Richard Bache, Stephen Paschall, and Michael Hillegas, for superintending the printing of the continental bills of credit, amounting to 272 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the method proposed by the commissary-general for supplying the army with provisions, brought in their report, which was read.

It being represented to Congress, that captain Isaac Sears, of New-York, has, at the request of Mr. Trumbull, the commissary-general, forwarded to the camp at Cambridge, seven thousand barrels of flour, for which Mr. Trumbull has not been able to pay him, for want of money in the military chest,

*Resolved*, That 30,000 dollars be paid to captain Isaac Sears, on account of the above flour, he giving bond to the treasurers to account for the same with Mr. Trumbull, and that the same be charged to the account of Mr. Trumbull, commissary-general.

A petition from Mr. Sears, and Mr. Randal, was laid before the Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Thursday, the 2d of November next, then to be taken into consideration.

*Resolved*, That captain Macpherson be requested immediately to repair to the camp at Cambridge, and confer with general Washington, on the subject contained in his letter to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the provincial convention of New-York be requested to send to this Congress, a copy of any order or proceeding of theirs, or of the mayor and corporation in consequence of governor Tryon's letter to the mayor, published in the New-York papers, under the 16th instant, also an attested copy of said letter.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, October 20, 1775.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the general, reported a draught, which was read and agreed to.

*Resolved*, That three hundred dollars be paid to captain John Macpherson, to defray the expenses of his journey to the camp, he to be accountable.

The remainder of the day, and the day following, were spent in a committee of the whole, on the trade of the United Colonies. On which, not being ready to report, the order of the day was renewed, and the Congress adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, October 23, 1775.**

The Congress being informed that yesterday the honorable Peyton Randolph, esq. suddenly departed this life,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will attend his funeral as mourners, with a crape round their left arm, according to the association.

That the Congress thus continue in mourning for the space of one month.

That a committee of three be appointed to superintend the funeral.

The members chosen, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Chase.

That the committee wait on the reverend Mr. Duche, and request him to prepare a proper discourse to be delivered at the funeral.

The delegates for Delaware government having been re-appointed by their assembly, on the 21st inst. produced the credentials of their re-appointment, which were read and approved.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow, and from thence, by adjournments, to ten o'clock on Wednesday.

**WEDNESDAY, October 25, 1775.**

Sundry letters from general Washington, governor Trumbull, and the convention of New-York, being received, were read.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the letters from the convention of New-Jersey, dated 13th and 14th instant, brought in a draught, and the same being read and debated, an answer was agreed to, and ordered to be forwarded.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John Biddle, commissary of the rifle battalion, 4139.7 dollars.

James Stewart, for provisions to riflemen, 15.7 ditto.

Jacob Hoyler, for do. to capt. Ross's company, 18.3 ditto.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The committee of safety, of Pennsylvania, informed the Congress, that they have taken into custody a captain Campbell, and a lieutenant Symes, together with a number of soldiers, who came from Boston in the Rebecca and Frances transport, which was cast away on Brigantine beach, and that, from general Gage's instructions to said Campbell and Symes (herewith transmitted to Congress,) it appeared they were sent to raise recruits for general Gage's army, and that from sundry examinations taken and submitted to Congress, it appeared said Campbell has heretofore been employed in the like service, and has endeavoured to inveigle recruits by the offer of grants of forfeited lands.

The instructions being read,

*Ordered*, That they be published.

The examinations also being read,

*Ordered*, That a copy of them be forwarded to the convention of New-York, with a recommendation to them to seize a Mr. Grant, who, it is said, is employed in raising recruits for general Gage's army in that colony.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hewes be added to the committee of claims.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, October 26, 1775.**

*Ordered*, That the resolution of the 15th of July last for encouraging the importation of arms and ammunition, and the resolution of the 18th inst. for collecting an account of the hostilities committed by the ministerial troops and navy, be immediately published.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, dated 20th instant, and report an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. Deane, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Duane.

Information being given to Congress, that there has been lately discovered, in the colony of Virginia, a mineral containing a large quantity of salt-petre,

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Virginia send an express to enquire into the truth of the fact, and to bring a sample of the mineral.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to take into consideration the instructions given to the delegates of New Hampshire, and report their opinion thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Ward, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Sherman.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, and have come to a resolution which they desired him to report, and further to move for leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several provincial assemblies, conventions, or councils of safety, of the United Colonies, to export to the foreign West-Indies, on account and risk of their respective colonies, as much provisions or other produce, except horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry, as they may deem necessary for the importation of arms, ammunition, sulphur, and salt-petre.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be transmitted by the delegates to their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees of safety.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, October 27, 1775.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the convention of New-York, brought in a report, which was read.

The remainder of the day being spent in a committee of the whole, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, October 28, 1775.

The committee of safety of Pennsylvania having transmitted to Congress some further examinations of the soldiers who came in the Rebecca and Frances transport, desired the direction of Congress with regard to the officers and soldiers. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That capt. Campbell and lieut. Symes, and the men who came with them in the Rebecca and Frances transport, be confined in such gaols in this colony, as the committee of safety of said colony think proper, and that said captain Campbell and lieut. Symes be allowed for their subsistence 1 1-3 dollars each a week, and the men one dollar a week each, to be paid out of the continental treasury.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New York letters,

*Resolved*, That a company of matrosses, to consist of a captain, a captain-lieutenant, a first and second lieutenant, a lieutenant fire-worker, four sergeants, four corporals, eight bombardiers, sixty-eight matrosses, one drummer, and one fifer, be immediately raised in New York, for the defence of Hudson's river, and to occupy the fortifications now erecting in the highlands, and that it be recommended to the convention of said colony immediately to raise said company, and to appoint the proper officers.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due on account of necessities furnished to the hussar company, and for services therein, the following sums, viz.

To James & Drinker, per account, 192.8 dollars.

Thomas Clifford and Sons, 64.4 dollars.

Usher & Henry, 29.2 dollars.

George Fromberger, 127.3 dollars.

William Ogden, 73.3 dollars.

William Kerlin, 64 dollars.

Samuel Garrigues, 11 dollars.

Andrew Fegener, 266.6 dollars.

Lewis Kuhn, 425.3 dollars.

Lewis Prahl, to be paid by his order to Andrew Bonner, 226.6 dollars.

Sundries for smaller sums to be paid by T. Matlack, 550.6 dollars.

That there is due to Rachael Stille, for expenses of a guard at Trenton over the powder, 10.5 dollars.

To William Holmes, for goods furnished the rifle company raised in Cumberland, 85.6 dollars.

To Timothy Matlack, to pay for wood for the use of the Congress, 22 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That five of the committee of claims, of which the chairman is to be one, be empowered to act.

*Resolved*, That the inspectors of the press deliver the proof-sheets and checks of the continental bills, to the continental treasurers, and that they deliver one of each to the delegates of every colony, to be deposited with the provincial treasurer appointed in such colony, and retain the rest in their hands.

Mr. Randolph, one of the salt-petre committee, being dead, and Mr. Morton, another, desiring to be excused, on account of his attendance in the house of assembly,

*Resolved*, That three new members be chosen for that committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Humphreys, and Mr. Wythe.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, October 30, 1775.

The committee appointed to prepare an estimate, and to fit out the vessels, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the second vessel ordered to be fitted out on the 13th instant, be of such a size as to carry fourteen guns, and a proportionate number of swivels and men.

*Resolved*, That two more vessels be fitted out with all expedition; the one to carry not exceeding twenty guns, and the other not exceeding thirty-six guns, with a proportionable number of swivels and men, to be employed in such manner, for the protection and defence of the United Colonies, as the Congress shall direct.

*Resolved*, That four members be chosen and added to the former committee of three, and that these seven be a committee to carry into execution with all possible expedition, as well the resolutions of Congress passed the 13th instant, as those passed this day, for fitting out armed vessels.

The members chosen, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Hewes, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. J. Adams.

The Convention of New-Jersey, having recommended sundry gentlemen for field officers to command the two battalions raising in that colony,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

A letter from W. Livingston, esq. dated the 18th instant, was read, and referred till to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, October 31, 1775.**

Sundry letters from general Schuyler of the 6th, 13th, 14th, and 19th instant, with sundry papers enclosed, were read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the trade of these colonies, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee, having taken into consideration the matter to them referred, have come to certain resolutions, which they desired him to report, but that not having come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The report of the committee being read,

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of field officers for the battalions raising in New-Jersey, be postponed to Friday next.

A member from Pennsylvania laid before the Congress a resolve of the honorable assembly of that colony, in these words :

“ IN ASSEMBLY, October 28, 1775.

“ The house taking into their further consideration the resolve of Congress, for raising a battalion in this province, for general service, find it necessary that moneys should be advanced by the several captains for that purpose.

“ *Resolved*, Therefore, that the Congress be requested to order a sufficient sum of money to be put into the hands of the committee of safety of this province, to be immediately applied in raising said battalion.

“ Extract from the minutes,

“ CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of Assembly.*”

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be referred to Friday next.

The order of the day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, November 1, 1775.**

A letter from general Washington by express, with an account of the burning of Falmouth, was read.

*Ordered*, That a copy be forwarded by the delegates to their respective assemblies, conventions, and committees of safety.

A letter from the committee of conference, with the minutes of their proceedings, was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report from the committee of the whole,

*Resolved*, That no produce of the United Colonies be exported, (except from colony to colony, under the direction of the committees of inspection and observation, and except from one part to another of the same colony) before the first day of March next, without the permission or order of this Congress : provided. that nothing herein contained shall be construed to vacate the resolutions of Congress for the importation of arms, ammunition, &c.

*Resolved*, That New-York, the three lower counties on Delaware, North-Carolina, and Georgia, ought not to avail themselves of the benefit allowed to them by the late restraining act, and therefore, that no person should apply at the custom-houses in those colonies for clearances or other documents, which other colonies are deprived of by said restraining act, for securing the navigation of vessels with cargoes from their ports ; and that the president transmit to the assemblies or conventions of those colonies, copies of this resolution, with the thanks of this Congress, to those colonies respectively, for not having hitherto taken any advantage of the exemptions in the said act of parliament.

**Resolved**, That no rice be exported under the exception contained in the 4th article of the association, from any of the United Colonies to Great-Britain, Ireland, or the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay, or Man, or any other European island, or settlement within the British dominions.

**Resolved**, That no live stock, (necessary sea-stores, at the discretion of the committees, and horses excepted) be exported from these colonies, or water borne, except in rivers, bays, and sounds.

The further consideration of the report being postponed, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, November 2, 1775.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Daniel Smith, for expenses of guards attending governor Skene, major French and others, and the expenses of Mr. Lundy and major French, 133.3 dollars.

To John Davies, for provisions and carriage to three rifle companies, 1320.9 dollars.

To Simons and Henry, for sundries to rifle companies, 2313.6 dollars; of this 26.7 dollars to be charged to the continent, the remainder to several rifle companies, the money to be paid to Hugh and George Roberts, per order of said Simons and Henry.

To John Montgomery, 56 dollars, of which 2.4 to be charged to the continent.

To John Brewster, Zachariah Dubois, and Jon. Brooks, 61.1 dollars, to be paid per order to Henry Wisner, esq.

To William Sickle, according to the prayer of his petition, 40 dollars.

To captain Dowdle, for drums, &c. for his company, 61.1 dollars.

**Ordered**, That the above accounts be paid.

**Resolved**, That the committee appointed to carry into execution the resolves of Congress, for fitting out four armed vessels, be authorized to draw on the continental treasurers, from time to time, for as much cash as shall be necessary for the above purpose, not exceeding the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, and that the said committee have power to agree with such officers and seamen, as are proper to man and command said vessels, and that the encouragement to such officers and seamen be one half of all ships of war made prize of by them, and one-third of all transport vessels, exclusive of wages.

The inhabitants of a district in Nova-Scotia, having chosen a committee of safety, and having, by their petition, applied to the Congress to be admitted into the association of the United Colonies, for the preservation of their rights and liberties,

**Resolved**, That a committee of five be appointed to take this matter into consideration, and report what steps, in their opinion, it may be proper to take, in consequence of this application, for the preservation of the liberties of America.

The members chosen, Mr. Deane, Mr. Jay, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Langdon, and Mr. J. Adams.

**Resolved**, That the delegates have liberty to transmit to their respective committees of safety, a copy of the resolution passed yesterday.

A memorial from the committee of safety, of Pennsylvania, respecting lieutenant Symes, was read:

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

A letter from Mr. Bedford, deputy muster-master general, with sundry muster rolls, being received, were read.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the instruction to the delegates of New-Hampshire, brought in their report, which was read,

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

A petition from John Raigs, of Bermudas, was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letters from general Schuyler, general Montgomery, and W. Livingston, esq.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to repair to the northward, to confer with general Schuyler, and to pursue such instructions as may be given them in charge by the Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Langdon, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Dyer.

That a committee of five be appointed to prepare instructions for the foregoing committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Jay, Mr. Lee, Mr. Deane, and Mr. J. Adams.

*Resolved*, That 3000 felt hats, 5000 worsted caps, 5000 pair of buckskin breeches, 3000 pair of shoes, 3000 pair of yarn stockings, and 3000 waistcoats, suitable for the season, be immediately purchased and sent to the army, under the command of general Schuyler, to be sold to the soldiers at prime cost, including charges of carriage, and five per cent. to the deputy quarter-master general, by whom the said goods are to be sold.

*Resolved*, That these goods be sold to those soldiers only, who will re-enlist in the continental army, and to the new recruits.

*Resolved*, That as much duffels or kersey, as will make three hundred watch coats, be purchased and sent to general Schuyler, with needles and thread, to be made into watch coats, and that these be charged to the continent, and kept for the use of the out centres.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to purchase the foregoing articles.

The members chosen, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Sherman.

*Ordered*, That the committee apply to the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, for their assistance in purchasing the above articles.

The committee appointed to repair to the camp at Cambridge, being returned, made a farther report of their proceedings: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Saturday next be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the committee, and the state of the army at Cambridge.

*Resolved*, That the petition of Mr. Sears, and Mr. Randall, which was referred to this day, be postponed to Monday next.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, November 3, 1775.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New-Hampshire instructions,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the provincial convention of New-Hampshire, to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such a form of government, as, in their judgment, will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the province, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the colonies.

The Congress then, taking into consideration the state of South-Carolina, and sundry papers relative thereto, being read and considered,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report what, in their opinion, is necessary to be done.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Chase, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to William Holiday, for goods and provisions furnished by several persons to the rifle companies of

Virginia, the sum of £ 246 12 3 Virginia currency, 122 dollars; of which there ought to be charged to capt. Morgan, the sum of £ 169 1 7½, and to captain Stevenson, the sum of £ 13 16 11, and the remainder to the continent.

To Andrew Bonner, for goods furnished to capt. Cressop's company, by David Mitchell, the sum of £ 67 4 6, and for provisions to capt. Stevenson's company, the sum of £ 3 2 6, the last mentioned sum to be charged to the continent, both amounting to 187.6 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress, taking into consideration the recommendation from the convention of New-Jersey,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Monday next.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, November 4, 1775.

A letter from gen. Schuyler, with sundry enclosed papers, containing an account of the taking of fort Chambly, being received and read,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to prepare instructions.

*Ordered*, That gen. Montgomery's letter, and the articles of capitulation, be published by the secretary.

The committee appointed on the differences between the people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, brought in their report, which being read,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Monday next.

On motion made, the Congress came to the following resolution:

The Congress, considering that the most perfect union between all the colonies, is essentially necessary for the preservation of the just rights of North-America, and being apprehensive that there is great danger of hostilities being commenced, at or near Wyoming, between the inhabitants of the colony of Pennsylvania, and those of Connecticut,

*Resolved*, That the assemblies of the said colonies be requested to take the most speedy and effectual steps to prevent such hostilities.

*Ordered*, That Mr. M'Kean and Mr. Deane, wait upon the honourable house of assembly, of Pennsylvania, now sitting, with a copy of the above resolution.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said resolution be transmitted by express to the magistrates, and people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, on the waters of Susquehanna.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee of conference,

*Resolved*, That the new army, intended to lie before Boston, consist of 20,372 men, officers included.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the officers and privates (except that of the captains, lieutenants, and ensigns in the marching regiments) be the same as in the present army.

*Resolved*, That the pay of a captain, in the marching regiment, be 26 2-3 dollars per calendar month.

That the pay of a lieutenant in ditto, be 18 dollars per ditto.

The pay of an ensign in ditto, be 13 1-3 dollars per ditto.

*Resolved*, That each regiment consist of 728 men, officers included; that it be divided into eight companies, each company to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four serjeants, four corporals, two drums or fifes, and 76 privates.

*Resolved*, That a ration consist of the following kind and quantity of provisions:

1 lb. beef, or 3-4 lb. pork, or ½ lb. salt fish, per day.

1 lb. bread or flour per day.

3 pints of pease or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for pease or beans.

1 pint of milk per man, or at the rate of 1-72 of a dollar.

1 half pint of rice, or 1 pint of Indian meal per man per week.

1 quart of spruce beer or cyder per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses per company of 100 men per week.

3 lb. candles to 100 men per week for guards.

24 lb. soft, or 8 lb hard soap, for 100 men per week.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several assemblies or conventions of the colonies respectively, to set and keep their gunsmiths at work, to manufacture good firelocks, with bayonets; each firelock to be made with a good bridle lock, three-quarters of an inch bore, and of good substance at the breech, the barrel to be three feet 8 inches in length, the bayonet to be 18 inches in the blade, with a steel ramrod, the upper loop thereof to be trumpet-mouthed; that the price to be given be fixed by the assembly or convention, or committee of safety of each colony, and that until a sufficient quantity of good arms can be manufactured, they import as many as are wanted, by all the means in their power.

*Resolved*, That the good arms of such soldiers as leave the service, be retained for the use of the new army, on a valuation made of them.

*Resolved*, That clothing be provided for the new army by the continent, and paid for, by stoppages out of the soldiers' wages, at 1 2-3 dollars per month; that as much as possible of the cloth for this purpose be dyed brown, and the distinctions of the regiments made in the facings.

That a man who brings a good new blanket into the camp, be allowed two dollars therefor, and take it away at the end of the campaign.

*Resolved*, That in order to supply the army with provisions, the commissary-general be directed to cause cattle and hogs to be driven, at proper seasons, to the camp, there to be slaughtered and cured, and as to the articles of bread and flour, that he proceed in the way that he has done for some time past.

*Resolved*, That such officers as have served in the present army to approbation, and are willing to stay, be preferred, and if there are more of these than are necessary for the new army, that the general distinguish such as he deems best qualified.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several legislatures of New-England to empower the general to impress carriages, vessels, horses, and other things necessary, at a reasonable rate, for the transportation or march of the army, or any part of it, or on any other emergency, and that this power may be deputed in writing, under the hand of the general to the quarter-master general, or to any inferior officer, who are to be accountable for any abuse thereof.

*Resolved*, That the general be directed to propose to the officers now serving in the present army, that they signify in writing, as soon as possible, which of them will continue to serve and defend their country, and which of them will retire, and that such officers as propose to continue in the service, and are approved by the general, proceed to enlist their men into the continental service, upon the same pay and allowance of provisions as is now given, their service to continue to the last day of December, 1776, subject to be discharged at any time by the continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That if, upon trial, the number of men before resolved on, cannot be raised out of the present army, then the officers appointed for the new army, recruit their several regiments and companies to their full complement; and, in case the necessity of the service requires it, that the general be empowered to call forth the minute-men or militia of Massachusetts-Bay, or the neighboring colonies, according to the nature and exigence of the service.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several legislatures, assemblies, or conventions of the colonies, to enact a law or pass an ordinance, inflicting

the following punishments upon such as harbor deserters, knowing them to be such, viz: a fine upon all such offenders, not less than thirty, nor more than fifty dollars; and in case of inability to pay the fine, to be punished with whipping, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes for each offence: also, that they empower the commander in chief, or the officer commanding a detachment or any out-post, to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any information or intelligence, or any other matter relative to the public service.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall apprehend a deserter, and bring him to the regiment to which he belongs, upon certificate thereof by the colonel or commanding officer of such regiment, shall be entitled to receive five dollars and all reasonable expenses from the pay-master general, or deputy pay-master, which is to be deducted from the pay of such soldier.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be referred to Monday next.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of South-Carolina, brought in their report, which being read,

*Resolved*, That for the defence of South-Carolina, there be kept up in that colony, at the continental expense, three battalions of foot, each battalion to consist of the same number of men and officers, and be upon the same pay, and under the same regulations, as the continental army.

*Resolved*, That for the defence of the colony of Georgia, there be one battalion kept up there at the continental expense, to be composed as the battalions of South-Carolina.

*Resolved*, That the said troops be inlisted to the 31st day of December, 1776, subject, however, to be discharged sooner if the continental Congress shall think proper.

*Resolved*, That the president sign blank commissions, and that the conventions, or, in their recess, the councils of safety for South-Carolina and Georgia respectively, fill them up with the names of such officers as they may think proper, and return a list thereof to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That in case of a vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a colonel or inferior officer, the said conventions or, in their recess, the said councils of safety, appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until a commission shall issue from the Congress, and that they return to the Congress a list of the names of the person or persons so appointed.

*Resolved*, That the officers on the continental establishment shall, when acting in conjunction with officers of equal rank on the provincial establishment, take command of the latter, and also of the militia; and the officers of the troops on the provincial establishment shall, when acting in conjunction with the officers of the militia, take command and precedence of the latter of equal rank, notwithstanding prior dates of commissions.

*Resolved*, That if the convention, or, in their recess, the council of safety of South-Carolina, shall think it expedient for the security of that colony, to seize or destroy, and shall seize or destroy, any ship or vessel of war, this Congress will approve of such proceeding.

*Resolved*, That the town of Charleston ought to be defended against any attempts that may be made to take possession thereof by the enemies of America, and that the convention or council of safety of the colony of South-Carolina, ought to pursue such measures, as to them shall seem most efficacious for that purpose, and that they proceed immediately to erect such fortifications and batteries in or near Charleston, as will best conduce to promote its security, the expense to be paid by the said colony.

*Resolved*, That if the convention of South Carolina shall find it necessary to establish a form of government in that colony, it be recommended to that convention to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the said

representatives, if they think it necessary, shall establish such a form of government as in their judgment will produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great Britain and the colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, November 6, 1775.**

The assembly of Pennsylvania having appointed new delegates, the said delegates produced their credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follows:

**"IN ASSEMBLY, November 3, 1775.**

**"Resolved,** That the honorable John Morton, speaker, John Dickinson, Robert Morris, Benjamin Franklin, Charles Humphreys, Edward Biddle, Thomas Willing, Andrew Allen, and James Wilson, be, and they are hereby, appointed to serve as representatives of this province in the Continental Congress.

**"Extract from the minutes**

**"CHARLES MOORE, Clerk of Assembly."**

**Resolved,** That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the sundry letters lately received from the convention of New-York, and the state of that colony, and report what in their opinion is necessary to be done.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Livingston, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Ward.

The Congress, resuming the consideration of the report of the committee returned from the camp, and having agreed to sundry articles therein contained, and come to sundry resolutions,

**Ordered,** That the secretary digest in order the resolutions of the Congress, as far as they have gone in the report, and lay the same before Congress tomorrow.

**Resolved,** That the further consideration of the report be referred till tomorrow.

**Resolved,** That a committee be appointed to examine what money remains in the continental treasury unapplied, and to form an estimate of the public debts already incurred, and which will become due on the first day of June next.

That the committee consist of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Cushing.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To John Forbes, for goods and necessaries delivered to several rifle companies, the sum of £35 11 10, equal to 94.9 dollars, of which sum capt. Cluggage ought to be charged with £6 2 10, and captain Chambers with £4 10, the remainder to the continent; that this is to be paid per order to Blair M'Clenahan.

To Jane Allen, the sum of £47 0 7, and to Vendal Lands the sum of £2 0 0, both sums being 130.7 dollars, and that the same be paid, per order, to Henry Wisner, esq. and be charged to the continent.

To Judah Harbow, £7 12 4, and to capt. Jackson £13 4 6, for necessaries furnished several rifle companies, and that both sums be paid, per order, to Henry Wisner, esq. and charged to the continent, being 52.1 dollars.

To Andrew Graff, for wagonage, the sum of £27 2 6, and to Christopher Crawford, for blankets, the sum of £6 15, both which sums to be paid, per order, to George Graff, and charged to the continent, being 90.3 dollars.

To Richard Backhouse, for wagonage, the sum of £51, being 136 dollars.

To Miles and Wister, by sundry certificates, £26 6 4, equal to 70.1 dollars, of which £13 10 be charged to capt. Rice's company, and 8s. to capt. Cressop's company; the remainder to the continent.

To Frederick Lienbach, by sundry certificates, £58 11 5, equal to 156.2 dollars, of which £4 13 6 to be charged to capt. Price, £3 15 to capt. Stevenson, £6 15 1 to commissary Biddle, until it appears to be otherwise accounted for, and the remainder to the continent, to be paid, per order, to George Schlosser.

To John Murrow, for goods delivered to capt. Stevenson, £71 18 10, to be paid, per order, to George Davis, and charged to said Stevenson, being 191.8 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for wagonage, £169 9 3, equal to 451.9 dollars.

To Timothy Matlack, money by him paid to Joseph Brown, an express to Cambridge, £17 4 1, equal to 45.9 dollars.

To Jasper Stimes and Abraham Storm, for provisions and carriage furnished by them to the rifle companies £14 9 2, New York currency, 36.1 dollars, to be paid, per order, to John Alsop, esq.

*Ordered*, That the above sums be paid.

Application being made in behalf of the colony of North Carolina, for the sum of 3,750 dollars, in part of the expense incurred for raising and equipping a thousand men for the support of the association and the safety of that colony, agreeable to the resolve of the Congress,

*Ordered*, That the same be paid to William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn, esqs. and charged to the colony of North Carolina, by which the same is to be accounted for.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, November 7, 1775.

A letter from general Washington, No. 11, was read.

The secretary having digested in order the resolutions passed by Congress, produced the same, which being read, were approved as follows:

*Resolved*, That Dr. Church be close confined in some secure gaol in the colony of Connecticut, without the use of pen, ink, and paper, and that no person be allowed to converse with him, except in the presence and hearing of a magistrate of the town, or the sheriff of the county where he shall be confined, and in the English language, until further orders from this or a future Congress.

*Resolved*, That the following additions and alterations or amendments be made in the rules and regulations of the continental army.

*(For these rules and regulations, see page 97, &c. in the notes.)*

*Resolved*, That three new members be added to the committee for importing arms, ammunition, &c. and that any five of them be a quorum.

The members chosen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Bullock.

The Congress taking into consideration the recommendation for field officers of the New-Jersey battalions,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will proceed by ballot to the election of the said field officers.

The ballots being taken and examined,

Lord Sterling was elected colonel of the first of the two battalions.

William Wind, esq. lieutenant-colonel of ditto.

William De Hart, esq. major of ditto.

William Maxwell, esq. colonel of the second of ditto.

Israel Shrieve, esq. lieutenant-colonel of ditto.

David Khea, esq. major of ditto.

Mr. Dickinson delivered a verbal message from the assembly of Pennsylvania, respecting the resolve sent to them by Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Deane, desiring to know on what evidence the Congress ground the apprehension

therein expressed, of hostilities commencing, at or near Wyoming, between the inhabitants of the colony of Pennsylvania and those of Connecticut.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the letters from the convention of New-York, and the state of that colony, brought in their report:

*Ordered*, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, November 8, 1775.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the secret committee\* appointed to contract for the importation of arms, ammunition, &c. be empowered to export to the foreign West-Indies, on account and risque of the continent, as much provision, or any other produce, (except horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry) as they may deem necessary for the importation of arms, ammunition, sulphur, and salt-petre.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. Kirkland.

The members chosen, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Ward.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Alexander Klinger, for provisions furnished to captain Hendrick's company, £ 9 10, and to Resine Mourer, for ferriage 9s 2, the whole to be paid, per order, to Henry Christ, being 26.5 dollars.

To George Kungle, for provisions furnished to captain Ross's company, £ 4 16 10, = 75 dollars.

To Henry Valentine, for transcribing writings for the Congress, £ 3 18 = 10.4 dollars.

To Samuel Bear, for provisions furnished to several companies, £ 27 15 7, to be paid, per order, to Thomas Compton, = 74 dollars.

To sundries, per certificates and accounts forwarded by Lewis Ogden, for necessities furnished captain Ross's company, and for a guard over a powder wagon, £ 42 0 2, New-York currency, to be paid, per order, to George Kennedy, being 105 dollars.

To Henry Dearing, for necessities furnished to captain Ross's company, £ 6 17, to be paid, per order, to John Biddle, junior, being 18.3 dollars.

To John Jones, for ferriage and provisions, for captain Ross's company, £ 2, = 5.3 dollars.

Mathias Slough, per certificates, for provisions furnished several rifle companies, £ 22 3 2, = 59.1 dollars.

To sundries, per certificates, for provisions furnished captain Ross's company, £ 23 15 5, New-York currency, to be paid, per order, to being 59.4 dollars.

### \* IN CONGRESS, September, 18, 1775.

*Resolved*, That a secret committee be appointed to contract for the importation and delivery of any quantity of gun-powder, not exceeding five hundred tons.

That in case such a quantity of gun-powder cannot be procured, to contract for the importation of so much salt-petre, with a proportionable quantity of sulphur, as, with the powder procured, will make five hundred tons.

That the said committee be empowered to contract for the importation of forty brass field pieces, six pounders, for 10,000 stand of arms, and 20,000 good plain double bridle musket locks.

That the said committee be empowered to draw on the treasurers to answer the said contracts.

That the said committee consist of nine members, any five of whom to be a quorum.

The members chosen, Mr. Willing, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Deane, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Langdon, Mr. McKean and Mr. Ward.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the New-York letter, &c.

*Resolved*, That a commander with the rank of a colonel, be appointed to take the command of the fortifications or fortresses on Hudson's river, in the highlands.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, to empower the said commander to call together and command two hundred men of the militia of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties, and one company of artillery from the city of New-York, who shall be stationed in the highlands until relieved by the company of artillery, directed by this Congress to be raised in the city of New-York, and such other continental troops as may hereafter be directed to take possession of the same.

*Resolved*, That the minute men or militia, while on service, be maintained and paid at the same rate, as the rest of the continental forces.

*Resolved*, That a number of the militia of the counties of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster, be formed into independent companies, under the direction of the commander of the said fortresses, and in case of alarm, be directed to repair to the several stations in the highlands, which, in order to prevent confusion, should be immediately assigned them.

*Resolved*, That the troops, which shall at any time hereafter be directed to garrison the fortresses in the highlands, be put under the direction of the commander of the fortresses, except when headed by a general officer.

*Resolved*, That the deputy commissary-general be directed to provide sufficient provision for one thousand men for one month, and keep that quantity in stock.

*Resolved*, That the powder sent from this place to general Schuyler, be remanded, if it can be any way spared, and left at the fortresses in the highlands.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, be requested to furnish the colony of New-York with 500 lbs. of powder, and forward the same immediately to Dobb's ferry; that the convention of New-York give order to receive it there, and send it as soon as possible to the fortresses in the highlands.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, if they have not already sent forward a sufficient number of cannon for the defence of the fortresses erecting in the highlands, that they immediately send forward to those fortresses so many of the cannon at King's bridge of the best quality and largest bore, as they may think necessary for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That the bills of sale, for the vessels ordered to be purchased, be made to the continental treasurers, or those who shall succeed them in that office, in trust nevertheless for the use of the continent, or their representatives, in Congress met.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of a commander of the fortresses on Hudson's river be deferred till to-morrow.

Mr. Dyer having, on account of indisposition, desired to be excused from going to the northward, the Congress proceeded to the election of another in his stead, and Mr. R. R. Livingston was chosen.

The committee appointed to prepare a draught of instructions, reported the same, which being read, and debated by paragraphs, were agreed to as follows:

Instructions to R. R. Livingston, Robert Treat Paine, and J. Langdon, esquires.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ The Congress expect that you repair, with as much despatch, as the necessary preparations for your journey will admit, to Ticonderoga, in order to consult with general Schuyler what number of forces will be necessary in Canada, and of the best and most efficacious method for procuring or continuing

such forces in the northern department during the ensuing winter, of engaging the inhabitants of the colony of Canada to accede to the association of the United Colonies, and of protecting them for the future against their and our enemies.

"If, upon such a conference, it shall be judged necessary, you are authorized to direct Mr. Livingston, the deputy commissary-general, to furnish the necessary provisions for an army of three thousand men for six months.

"You are also authorized to offer two months' pay as a bounty to such officers and soldiers as shall re-inlist, to be paid upon their taking the fortress at St. John's and Montreal, and you are to make use of every argument, to induce them to re-inlist, or at least to stay until they can be relieved, and to assure them, that the Congress have taken care to supply them with proper clothing.

"You are to direct the fortresses at Ticonderoga and Crown-Point, to be put into such a posture of defence, as the state of our affairs may require.

"You are to advise the general to purchase of such officers and soldiers, who have arms and are sick, their arms for the use of those who have none, or bad ones and are well.

"Ammunition it is hoped since the late capture will not be wanting, if it should, Congress will send the first that shall arrive.

"If there should be occasion of reinforcements, you are empowered, in concert with general Schuyler, to raise any number that can be procured in Canada, New-York, or any of the New-England governments, in order to possess themselves of Montreal and Quebec.

"The Congress desire you to exert your utmost endeavours to induce the Canadians to accede to a union with these colonies, and that they form from their several parishes, a provincial convention, and send delegates to this Congress. And as, in the present unsettled state of that country, a regular election can hardly be expected, the Congress will acquiesce in the choice of such parishes and districts, as are willing to join us.

"You may, and are hereby empowered to assure them, that we shall hold their rights as dear as our own, and on their union with us, exert our utmost endeavours to obtain for them, and their posterity, the blessings of a free government, and that security to their persons and property, which is derived from the British constitution.

"And you may, and are hereby empowered further to declare, that we hold sacred the rights of conscience, and shall never molest them in the free enjoyment of their religion.

"In case general Schuyler has not yet raised the regiment recommended to him to be raised in Canada, or in case he cannot proceed to Canada, you are to use all the means in your power to perfect the raising of a regiment of Canadians, to join the continental forces, and you are, for that purpose, to take with you blank commissions, which, taking the advice of the general officers in that department, you are to fill up with the names of such persons as have the most merit and best qualifications for the service.

"Congress direct you to acquaint general Schuyler, that they approve of his appointment of captain Dimon, to be a brigade major, and have ordered him a commission accordingly.

"The Congress moreover are desirous that you should take an accurate view of the state of our fortifications upon Hudson's river, and make a report of it as soon as it can conveniently be done.

"If the circumstances of the army should be such, that a ton of powder may be spared, you are to direct that quantity to be sent to New-York, and all such cannon and military stores as shall not be wanted in Canada, or in the fortifications on the lakes, to be sent to Albany, there to remain until the Congress give farther directions concerning them; and for this purpose, you are here-

with furnished with a list of the ordnance and military stores, which were at those places when taken.

"You are to inform the general that the pay of some of the officers is raised, and to take with you from the minutes, the additional establishment.

"You are to direct all such officers and soldiers as shall re-inlist, to be paid all arrears that may be due to them, according to the rolls to be sent by governor Trumbull, who in the mean time will be requested by Congress to send the rolls to the general, ascertaining how long the men have been in service.

"The disposition of the prisoners is approved of by the Congress, but the officers are not to be permitted to reside in or near any sea-port.

"You are authorized to assure major Brown and major Livingston, that the Congress have a just sense of their important services, and will take the first proper opportunity to reward them.

"You are also to acquaint the general, that general Montgomery's request, as to the pay of the company of artillery by him appointed, is complied with.

"A committee will be appointed to procure as much hard money as will be necessary to be transmitted to the deputy pay-master general in the northern army, to be used in Canada."

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to make an estimate, &c. be authorized to contract for the making proper paper for a future emission of paper bills of credit.

*Resolved*, That the president draw an order on the treasurers for the sum of 3000 dollars, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, agreeable to the request of the honorable the assembly, towards the expense of the battalion ordered to be raised in said colony.

*Resolved*, That all letters to and from the delegates of the United Colonies, during the sessions of Congress, pass, and be carried free of postage, the members having engaged upon honour not to frank or enclose any letters but their own.

*Ordered*, That this be published.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 20,000 dollars in favour of Francis Lewis and Roger Sherman, esqrs. to enable them to pay for the clothing they were ordered to purchase.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow,

#### THURSDAY, November 9, 1775:

A letter from the agents respecting the delivery of the petition and the reception it met with, was read:

*Ordered*, That the secretary publish the substance of said letter.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of a commander of the fortresses on Hudson's river be postponed to Wednesday next, and that captain John Hanson take and keep the command of the said fortresses and the troops there, until the Congress shall appoint a commander.

(On application made by the delegates of Georgia,

*Resolved*, That the president draw an order on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of that colony, for the sum of 5000 dollars, towards the expense of the battalion ordered to be raised there, the said colony to account for the same.

The committee to whom was referred the petition from some inhabitants of Nova-Scotia, brought in their report, and the same being taken into consideration and debated, was postponed till to-morrow.

The order of the day renewed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, November 10, 1775.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for 1000 dollars, in favor of Mr. R. Livingston, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Langdon, the committee appointed to repair to the northward,

*Resolved*, That the goods bought for the northern army be sent by land to Dobb's ferry, and that the president write to the convention of New-York, and desire them to have a vessel ready to take in the said goods, and transport them immediately to Albany.

*Resolved*, That the medicines purchased in this city for the army at Cambridge, be sent thither by land.

*Resolved*, That the president give written orders to Dr. Morgan, to call upon Mr. Sears, and desire him to deliver what medicines he has under his care, or can procure, that they may be forwarded to the camp at Cambridge, for the use of the army.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the state of the colony of Virginia, to consider whether any, and what provisions may be necessary for its defence, and to report the same to Congress.

That the committee consist of five.

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Johnson.

*Resolved*, That all letters to and from the commander in chief of the continental army, or the chief commander in the army in the northern department, pass and be carried free of postage.

*Resolved*, That the commander of the New-Jersey battalions be directed to march six companies of said battalions, as soon as they are completed, to garrison the fort on Hudson's river, in the highlands, in the colony of New-York.

*Resolved*, That the president write to governor Cooke, and request him to send to the committee of safety of New-York, one ton of powder, for the defence of that city and colony.

*Resolved*, That there be paid to John Wendall, the express from Albany, who has been detained twelve days by order of Congress, the sum of sixteen dollars, for the time he has been detained.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the delegates of New-Jersey, for 5000 dollars, towards the expense of the battalions ordered to be raised in that colony.

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Pennsylvania call on the gentlemen appointed to sign the continental bills, and request them with all possible expedition to complete that business.

The committee appointed to consider farther ways and means of promoting the manufacture of salt-petre, brought in their report, which was read in these words:

It appears to your committee, that skilful persons sent to Virginia, and employed there in a public salt-petre work, under the inspection of gentlemen who will superintend it, may, with sufficient assistance, produce a considerable quantity of that article; and that a further supply of it may be procured from the other colonies, if the assemblies, conventions, and councils of safety will appoint proper persons in their respective colonies, whose business it shall be to employ and set to work such and so many of their countrymen, as they shall judge fit, to collect earth from which nitrous salt may be extracted, and to manufacture it into salt petre.

The Congress taking into consideration the said report,

*Resolved*, That Richard Bland, Peter Poythress, John Bannister, John Buffin, Archibald Cary, Benjamin Watkins, John Tabb, Richard Adams, Richard Randolph, and Theodorick Bland, the younger, esqrs. or any five or more of them, be desired and empowered to agree with the proprietors of the public

ware-houses, and of other places impregnated with nitre, in the counties of Prince-George, Dinwiddie, Chesterfield, and Henrico; Carter Braxton, John Syme, Burwell Basset, Bartholomew Dandridge, William Aylett, George Brook, George Lyne, and George Webb, esqrs. or any five or more of them, with such proprietors in the counties of Hanover, New-Kent, King William, and King and Queen; Edmund Pendleton, James Taylor, George Stubblefield, Mann Page, the younger, Joseph Jones, William Fitzhugh, of Somerset, and Fielding Lewis, esqrs. or any four or more of them, with such proprietors in the counties of Caroline, Spotsylvania, and King George; and Charles Carter, of Stafford, Thomas Ludwell Lee, Henry Lee, Thomas Blackburn, Charles Broadwater, and George Mason, esqrs. or any three or more of them, with such proprietors in the county of Stafford, Prince William, and Fairfax, in the colony of Virginia, to purchase for the use of the United Colonies, all the salt-petre which may within twelve calendar months be produced from the floors and yards of the ware-houses and other places, under the management of such persons as the Congress shall appoint for that purpose, and to pay to the owners of the soil, if they will manufacture it at their own expense, after the rate of two fifths of a dollar for every pound weight, avoirdupois, of clean, pure, and neat salt-petre, delivered to the gentlemen above named, for the use of the United Colonies, and to hire laborers, and provide the necessary apparatus, to be employed under the direction of the said managers, in the soil of such persons as shall not chuse to adventure in the business themselves, paying to the owners, if they require satisfaction, what they shall be willing to take, so that it do not exceed one forty-fifth part of a dollar for every pound weight, avoirdupois, of salt-petre of the like quality, in both which cases the Congress will make good the contracts, and will pay all such expenses as shall be incurred by the gentlemen desired to superintend the operation; on whose zeal, influence, and abilities, to procure, with all convenient expedition, a large quantity of this article, so necessary for the defence of their country, and thereby render it a very important service, and by their example and activity to forward and encourage this useful work, the Congress rely with confidence.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, and committees of safety, of the thirteen United Colonies, to appoint certain persons within each of the said colonies, whose business it shall be to employ and set to work so many persons as they may think proper, both to work up such earth as is now fit for making salt-petre, and to collect together and place in beds or walls under sheds, all such earth and composition of materials as are suitable to produce salt-petre, after being duly exposed to the air, in order to encrease the produce of it, and that the delegates of the respective colonies be directed to send this resolution, together with the resolutions of last session respecting salt-petre, to their respective colonies, and cause them to be printed and made public there.

*Resolved*, That two battalions of marines be raised, consisting of one colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors, and other officers as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken, that no persons be appointed to offices, or inlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea when required: that they be inlisted and commissioned to serve for and during the present war between Great-Britain and the colonies, unless dismissed by order of Congress: that they be distinguished by the names of the first and second battalions of American marines, and that they be considered as part of the number which the continental army before Boston is ordered to consist of.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be transmitted to the general.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, November 11, 1775.**

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to such proprietors of tobacco warehouses, and tobacco houses in Virginia and Maryland, as cannot speedily have the earth of the floors of their houses worked for salt-petre, that they cause those floors to be soon dug up and left fine, loose, and light, at least six inches deep, suffering the tobacco stalks and trashy leaves to be spread thereon, and leaving the doors open, especially in dry weather, as often as convenience will permit, whereby the soil will be much the more impregnated with nitrous particles, the manufacture of salt-petre facilitated, and the quantity thereof greatly increased.

Two petitions, one from Charles Wharton, the other from James Loughhead, each praying to be appointed commissary to the battalions raising in this colony, were read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to contract with such person or persons as will undertake, at the cheapest rate, to supply such continental troops as are or may be in the barracks at Philadelphia, during their stay there, with the rations allowed by this Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Allen.

*Resolved*, That the recruiting officers in Pennsylvania, send the recruits they may enlist as soon as raised, to the barracks in Philadelphia.

A letter from Volkert P. Douw, esq. dated 6th instant, was read.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the foregoing letter, and the minutes of the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, by the Indian commissioners of the northern department, and report thereon.

That the committee consist of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Cushing.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to proceed to Ticonderoga and Canada, be directed to confer with the generals commanding in that department, on the propriety of sending the whole or any part of the army under their command, with proper artillery and ammunition, to Quebec, in order to second colonel Arnold's expedition, or to renew the attempt, should his have failed, and to give directions accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the fortifications of Quebec, in case it comes into our hands, be repaired, and furnished with such provisions, arms, ammunition and artillery, as may be necessary for its security.

*Resolved*, That in case any one of the foregoing committee be disabled or prevented from proceeding, the other two have full power to proceed and transact the business entrusted to them.

The committee appointed to confer with Mr. Kirkland, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 113 dollars be paid to the rev. Samuel Kirkland, for his past services, out of the continental treasury.

*Resolved*, That for the propagation of the gospel amongst the Indians, and conciliating their affections to the United Colonies, and thereby preserving their friendship and neutrality, Mr. Kirkland be continued in his mission amongst them, and that for those important purposes, he be allowed and paid out of the continental treasury, for the support of himself and family the ensuing year, sixty-five pounds sterling, or 288 8-9 dollars, and that sixty pounds sterling, or 266 2-3 dollars be advanced to him, to be by him disposed of in such manner as may best promote the happiness of the Indians, and attach them to these colonies.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed until the committee to whom Mr. Douw's letter, and the minutes of the late treaty are referred, shall have made their report.

*Resolved*, That 3000 tin cartouch boxes be made and sent to the camp, or if tin sufficient to make them can be procured, that it be sent.

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Pennsylvania execute this.

*Resolved*, That the salt-petre committee be empowered to enter into a contract with persons who offer to go to Virginia on this business.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army in Massachusetts-Bay.

That 50,000 dollars be sent to the convention of New-York, to be accounted for by said convention.

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Pennsylvania be a committee to count and forward the said sums under a guard.

*Resolved*, That the guard do not exceed three or two of the light horse, and a servant.

Two petitions, one from Murray, Sansom and others, and the other from Jasper Griffing, were read.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the foregoing petitions, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Johnson.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, November 13, 1775.

A letter from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, was read.

*Ordered*, That the rules and regulations of the army be republished, with the additions and alterations lately made.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a declaration, in answer to sundry illegal ministerial proclamations that have lately appeared in America

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

*Resolved*, That Thursday, the 23d instant, be assigned for electing a brigadier-general.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed, adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow, and from thence to ten o'clock on Wednesday.

#### WEDNESDAY, November 15, 1775.

An express having arrived with an account of the surrender of fort St. John's, the letters from general Schuyler and general Montgomery, were read.

*Resolved*, That an order for 542 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of captain Thomas Price, on account of his rifle company, he to be accountable for the same.

The committee to whom the petitions from Jasper Griffing, and Murray, Sansom and company and others, were referred, brought in their report, which was read, and agreed to as follows:

Your committee on the memorial of Jasper Griffing, are of opinion, that the examination of the facts, set forth in that memorial, ought to be referred to the committee of observation, for Guilford, and that the same being sufficiently proved, the schooner Betsey, mentioned in said memorial, ought to be permitted to proceed on her voyage, with the cargo purchased and provided for her before the 10th day of September last, the master and owner of the vessel previously making oath, that they will use their best and utmost endeavours, that the said cargo shall be landed in some foreign port.

On the memorial of Murray, Sansom and company, Jacob Watson, and Frederick Rhineland, of the city of New-York, your committee having examined as far as they could, into the conduct of the parties concerned, find no

ground to suspect that the owners of the cargo intended it should be landed or disposed of in any other manner than set forth in the said memorial, but your committee think there is just ground to suspect, that William Barron, the master of the ship Peggy, would not be very solicitous to prevent the cargo, which might be useful to the ministerial army, from falling into the possession of the men of war, he having been before taken in the same ship, in Rhode-Island, with a cargo from Chesapeake-Bay, for Europe, nor can your committee approve the conduct of the owner of the ship who continued the captain afterwards.

Your committee are therefore of opinion, that another master ought to be appointed to the said ship, who shall be approved by the committee of Norwich, and that the time of her sailing, as well as her track be appointed by that committee, and the master sworn to use his best endeavours to prevent the said ship falling into the possession of any man of war or cutter, and to pursue as far as he can, the orders of the said committee in navigating the said ship, on which terms your committee are of opinion, the said ship ought to be permitted to proceed with her cargo.

A proposal, from Nathaniel Sackett, for making a quantity of salt-petre, being received and read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the salt-petre committee.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, November 16, 1775.

*Resolved*, That two small swift sailing vessels be provided for packets, to be under the direction of Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Morris be appointed to provide said vessels, and that he be directed to get one ready to sail as soon as possible, and the other in a month hence.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means of employing these vessels to the best advantage.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. R. Morris, and Dr. Franklin.

The assembly of Pennsylvania having, by a resolution of their house, recommended three gentlemen for field officers to the battalion raising in said colony, the same, together with applications from sundries, to be appointed adjutant and quarter-master to said battalion, were read.

Sundry papers from the general assembly of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, being laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That these be referred to a committee of seven.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Sherman, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Ward, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Harrison.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 11th instant, to contract for supplying the troops in the barracks in Philadelphia, be empowered to contract for supplying the same wherever sent, for twelve calendar months, provided they are so long continued in the continental service, to commence next Monday.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Henry Rankin, for provisions to captain Ross's company, 161.9 dollars.

To John Hider, for carrying powder to Trenton, 10.6 dollars.

This to be paid per order to Joseph Jewell.

To Francis Lee, for horse-hire for expresses, 20 dollars.

To John Little, for entertainment of sundry expresses, 16.8 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The said committee also reported an account of Major Coates and captain Copperthwaite, which being read,

*Ordered*, That the same lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

*Resolved*, That the delegates write to their colleagues, who are absent, and inform them that the Congress expect their immediate attendance.

*Resolved*, That for the future, no member absent himself from Congress without leave of Congress.

*Resolved*, That it be a rule of this Congress, that every member remain in his seat whilst any paper is reading or question putting.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### FRIDAY, November 17, 1775.

A letter from general Washington, enclosing a letter and journal of colonel Arnold, and sundry papers, being received, the same were read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed, to take into consideration so much of the general's letter as relates to the disposal of such vessels and cargoes belonging to the enemy, as shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by, the inhabitants of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Johnson.

*Resolved*, That the prisoners taken at Chambly and St. John's, be sent to, and kept in, the towns of Reading, Lancaster, and York, in the colony of Pennsylvania.

That the committee appointed the 11th instant, to contract for supplying the battalion, raised in Pennsylvania, be empowered to distribute the said prisoners in the towns aforesaid, and contract for their support or subsistence.

That the rations of the privates be the same as are allowed the privates in the continental army.

That orders issue to the officer who has the charge of conducting the prisoners, to march them by the nearest road to Reading, in the colony of Pennsylvania, and that the deputy commissary-general be directed to supply them with provisions for their march, agreeable to the rations supplied the continental army.

That the said commissary be directed, if the prisoners agree to it, to send the women, children and baggage by water to Amboy, from thence to be sent across to Bordentown, and from thence by water to Philadelphia, from which last place they will be sent to join the garrison in the towns allotted to them, this being judged the safest, cheapest, and most commodious way of conveying them.

Whereas it is become necessary to appoint a colonel of the regiment of artillery, in the room of colonel Gridley, on account of his advanced age,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will indemnify colonel Gridley for any loss of half-pay, which he may sustain in consequence of his having been in the service of the United Colonies.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a colonel of the regiment of artillery, and

Henry Knox, esq. was unanimously elected.

*Resolved*, That the commissioned officers, taken in the forts of Chambly and St. John's, be put upon their parole of honour, that they will not go into or near any seaport town, nor farther than six miles distant from the respective places of their residence, without leave of the Continental Congress, and that they will carry on no political correspondence, whatever, on the subject of the dispute between Great-Britain and the colonies, so long as they remain prisoners.

Whereas the officers taken at fort Chambly, have been permitted by general Schuyler, to make choice of, and to reside in Trenton, in New-Jersey, and the disposition of the prisoners by him made, has been approved by Congress,

**Ordered,** That a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to the committee of Trenton, and that the said committee be desired to get the same signed by the officers there.

**Resolved,** That the officers taken at St. John's, be sent to Windham and Lebanon, in the colony of Connecticut, provided general Schuyler has not given his word for another disposition of them.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, and the order of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, November 20, 1773.

Sundry letters from general Washington and governor Trumbull, with papers enclosed, among which were intercepted letters from Cork, were read.

Two petitions, one from Godfred Fehr, the other from Melchior Neff, were presented to Congress and read.

Capt. John Hulbert, who was sent by general Schuyler to conduct the officers, who were taken prisoners at Fort Chambly, to Trenton, attended and made report of his proceedings.

**Resolved,** That the sum of 16,669 1-5 dollars be put into the hands of Mr. Thomas Lowry, of New Jersey, for the purpose of furnishing the two battalions raised in said colony with the articles allowed them, in lieu of bounty, and for one month's pay of said battalions, he to give security for the disposal of said money, and to render account to Congress.

**Ordered,** That Mr. R. Morris confer with Mr. Lowry, and receive proposals with regard to the recompence he will expect for this service.

**Resolved,** That the committee appointed to contract for supplying the battalions raised in Pennsylvania, be empowered to advertise and receive proposals, and contract for supplying the above two battalions with the rations allowed them.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an adjutant for the battalions under the command of colonel lord Sterling, raised in the eastern division of New-Jersey, and Alexander Clough was elected.

**Resolved,** That general Schuyler be directed to make further search in the places where the lead was found at Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, and that he send as much lead as can be spared to the camp at Cambridge.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be empowered to contract for the importation of an hundred tons of lead.

**Resolved,** That the intercepted letters be referred to the committee of seven, appointed the 17th instant, in order to select such parts of them as it may be proper to publish, and that they lay the extracts before Congress.

The orders of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, November 21, 1775.

Mr. Morris, who was appointed to confer with Mr. Lowry, having made his report, and the same being considered,

**Resolved,** That Mr. Lowry be allowed one and a quarter per cent. in full of all charges, for the money passing through his hands.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the petitions from Bermuda, to them referred, and after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the petitions to them referred, and had come to certain resolutions thereon, which he read in his place, and then delivered in.

The report of the committee being again read,

**Ordered,** That the same be considered to-morrow.

The orders of the day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *November 22, 1775.*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole, which was agreed to as follows:

The committee of the whole, to whom were referred the several petitions from the island of Bermuda, representing the distress to which they were exposed by the non-exportation agreement, and praying to be relieved in such manner as the Congress may deem consistent with the safety of America, report that they have considered the same, and thereupon came to the following resolutions:

That the inhabitants of the island of Bermuda appear friendly to the cause of America, and ought to be supplied with such and so great a quantity of the produce of these colonies, as may be necessary for their subsistence and home consumption; that, in the opinion of this committee, they will annually require for the purposes aforesaid, 72,000 bushels of Indian corn, 2,000 barrels of bread or flour, 1,000 barrels of beef or pork, 2,100 bushels of peas or beans, and 300 tierces of rice, and that they be permitted to export the same yearly.

That the said inhabitants ought to pay for the above annual allowance in salt, but it is not the design of this resolution to exclude them from the privilege of receiving American produce to any amount in exchange for arms, ammunition, salt-petre, sulphur, and field pieces, agreeable to a resolution of Congress, passed the 15th of July last.

That, to enable such of these colonies as can conveniently furnish the island of Bermuda with the abovementioned allowance, to divide whatever advantages may result therefrom, in proportion to their respective shares of the general expense. It is further the opinion of this committee,

That the colony of South Carolina supply them with 300 tierces of rice.

That the colony of North Carolina supply them with 16,000 bushels of Indian corn, and 468 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Virginia supply them with 36,000 bushels of Indian corn, and 1,050 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Maryland supply them with 20,000 bushels of Indian corn, and 582 bushels of peas or beans.

That the colony of Pennsylvania supply them with 1,200 barrels of flour or bread, and 600 barrels of beef or pork.

That the colony of New York supply them with 800 barrels of flour or bread, and 400 barrels of beef or pork.

That the conventions or committees of safety of the above mentioned colonies ought to superintend the said exportation, provide against frauds, and take care that, in exchanging the said commodities of salt and provisions, no undue advantage be taken by either party of their mutual wants, and further, that no vessel employed in this business ought to load without their permission, and that when they shall, in pursuance of these resolutions, permit any of the said vessels to load, they do give notice thereof to the committee of inspection of the county, city, or town where such vessel shall load, and inform them that the same is done under the authority and by order of this Congress.

*Ordered,* That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the several conventions, assemblies, or committees of safety of the United Colonies, and to the island of Bermuda; and that the inhabitants of the latter be informed, that the Congress will afford them other necessaries (such as lumber, soap, and candles) whenever the quality and quantity of each of those articles used in the island shall be ascertained.

That Edward Stiles be permitted, under the direction of the committee of safety of the colony of Pennsylvania, to send the brig *Sea-Nymph*, Samuel

Stobel, master, with 4000 bushels of Indian corn, 300 barrels of flour, 100 barrels of bread, 20 barrels of pork, 8 barrels of beef, 30 boxes of soap, and 15 barrels of apples to Bermuda, for the immediate supply of the inhabitants, and that the said cargo be considered as part of the annual allowance aforesaid, for the year ensuing.

The committee on Volkert P. Douw's letter, and the minutes of the treaty at Albany, brought in their report, which being read and debated,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be deferred till to-morrow.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *November 23, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That 120 dollars be paid to captain John Hulbert, and charged to general Schuyler, and that said J. Hulbert, after stationing his men at the fortresses on Hudson's river, have leave to be absent ten days.

The committee for fitting out armed vessels laid before Congress a draught of rules for the government of the American navy, and articles to be signed by the officers and men employed in that service, which were read, and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The committee on general Washington's letter brought in their report, which being read,

*Ordered*, That the same lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on Mr. Douw's letter, and the Albany treaty, and after debate, the first paragraph was postponed, and the remainder agreed to as follows:

The committee to whom it was referred to take into consideration the letter from Volkert P. Douw, esq. and the minutes of the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, by the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department, have examined the same, and come to the following resolutions thereupon:

That it is the opinion of this committee, that the Indians be assured that this Congress are pleased with their desire, that the trade should be opened as formerly at Albany and Schenectady, that the Congress will exert their strenuous endeavours to procure the goods the Indians many want, and put the trade under such wise regulations, as that mutual justice may be effected, and that they hope those endeavours will be successful.

That general Schuyler be desired to furnish the commissioners at Albany with some powder, if he can spare it, to be distributed among the Indians, who in the present circumstances, are much distressed by the want of that article.

That the commissioners for transacting Indian affairs in the northern department, be desired to obtain from the Mohawk Indians, and the corporation of Albany, a state of the controversy between them, concerning the land desired by the former in the late treaty at Albany, to be restored to them, and report the matter as it shall appear to them, to the Congress.

That the said commissioners be desired, at the expense of the United Colonies, to provide for and entertain the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, and other Indians friendly to these colonies, their attendants and messengers, with the accustomed hospitality when they come to Albany or Schenectady, to treat, or give intelligence of public affairs, or upon a visit, and for this purpose that 750 dollars be lodged in the hands of the said commissioners, subject to account.

That the said commissioners be directed to employ two blacksmiths for reasonable salaries, to reside among and work for the Indians of the Six Nations.

That the said commissioners be empowered to employ an interpreter, with a salary of 222 1-5 dollars by the year, commencing the 12th day of this month, who shall also be allowed his travelling expenses to be settled by the

commissioners, and James Deane, if they judge him well qualified, is recommended to execute this office.

That 23 dollars be paid James Deane over and above the 75 dollars advanced him by the commissioners for his past services.

*Resolved*, That three members be added to the committee on the Albany treaty, and that they be directed to consider of a plan for carrying on a trade with the Indians, and to devise ways and means for procuring goods proper for that trade.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lewis.

Whereas major Hawley, who was elected one of the commissioners of Indian affairs in the northern department, cannot, on account of the situation of his private affairs, attend that business, and he having by his letter desired to be excused from that service,

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing a commissioner of Indian affairs in the northern department, in the room of the said major Hawley.

Information being given to Congress, that certain frauds have been attempted in executing contracts for the continent,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to enquire into that matter.

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Johnson, colonel Lee, and Mr. S. Adams.

Application being made by Mr. Jay, in behalf of lieutenant Hamar, one of the prisoners at Trenton, for leave to reside with Mr. Duer, near Saratoga, the same was granted, he to be on the same parole as other officers, with this variation, not to go farther than twelve miles from the place now assigned him.

Application being also made in behalf of lieutenant Symes, a prisoner now in the gaol of Philadelphia, for leave to reside at Trenton, on the same parole as the other officers there, the same was granted.

Information being given to Congress by the committee of inspection for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, that sundry persons in this city have refused to receive in payment or give currency to the bills issued by order of this Congress, and also to those emitted by the assembly of this province,

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to take this matter into consideration, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Dr. Franklin, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Jefferson.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, and the orders of the day renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, November 24, 1775.

*Resolved*, That despatches be sent to the colony agents in England, by Mr. Morris's vessel, which will be ready to sail on Monday next.

The committee to whom the intercepted letters were referred, brought in their report, which being read and agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the said committee publish the extracts now laid before Congress, and that they get a thousand copies of the same, together with an authentic account of the capture of Chambly and St. John's, struck off.

*Ordered*, That the committee prepare a letter to the colony agents.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the choice of a commissioner for Indian affairs in the northern department, in the room of major Hawley, and the ballots being taken and examined,

Timothy Edwards, esq. was unanimously elected.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the state of North-Carolina, and report to Congress what in their opinion is necessary to be done for its safety and security.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Paca.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report on general Washington's letter, and the same, after debate, was referred for farther consideration till to-morrow.

A petition from Downham Newton, was presented and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Jay.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers pay such sums of money as the committee for promoting the manufacture of salt-petre shall draw orders upon, or apply to them for, not exceeding 1000 dollars, to be accounted for by said committee.

That in case the committee for promoting the manufacture of salt-petre, cannot procure persons to go to Virginia for that purpose, it be recommended to the gentlemen, who are desired and empowered to superintend and forward the work in that colony, to employ any skilful managers they can meet with, to undertake it.

A petition from captain Dugal McGregor, was presented and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee to whom Downham Newton's petition is referred.

The committee on the state of the treasury, brought in their report, which was read, and referred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, November 25, 1775.

The Congress proceeded to the election of field officers for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, when the ballots being taken and examined:

John Bull, esq. was elected colonel.

James Irvine, esq. lieutenant-colonel.

Anthony James Morris, esq. major.

*Resolved*, That Monday next be assigned for the appointment of an adjutant and a quarter-master for the second battalion, raised in New-Jersey, and of an adjutant and quarter-master for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That Tuesday next be assigned for the consideration of the memorials of the tea-holders in New-York and Philadelphia.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to John Hinchman, for provisions furnished to several rifle companies, the sum of 65.2 dollars.

Christopher Haine, for kettles and canteens, furnished to captain Stevenson and captain Ross's companies, the sum of 55.8 dollars, which ought to be paid to Gibson and Aston.

Richard Bache, deputy post-master, for sundry postages, from the 14th of October, to 8th November, 1775, inclusive, 31.1 dollars.

Thomas Dewees, for dieting the crew of the ship Rebecca and Frances, 44.4 dollars.

Levi Hollingsworth, for expenses of himself and three others, to Ticonderoga and back again, who took with them a quantity of money for general Schuyler, the sum of 128 dollars.

Andrew Bunker, for blankets and kettles, furnished captain Stevenson's company by Anthony Noble, 41.4 dollars.

Doctor Franklin, for the expenses of Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lynch, and himself, on their journey to the camp at Cambridge, including carriage hire, &c. 581.9 dollars, and for other monies paid by him for the continental service, including 20 dollars advanced to Christopher Madeira, and to be charged to him the sum of 72.7 dollars.

John Sterret, for goods furnished by Joseph Holmes to captain Morgan's company, to be charged to said company, the sum of 55.9 dollars.

William West, for goods furnished by John Holmes to captain Cluggage's company, the sum of 281.3 dollars, of which sum, 35 12-90 dollars being for

blankets charged to the continent, and the remainder to captain Cluggage's company.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on general Washington's letter, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas, it appears from undoubted information, that many vessels which had cleared at the respective custom-houses in these colonies, agreeable to the regulations established by acts of the British parliament, have in a lawless manner, without even the semblance of just authority, been seized by his majesty's ships of war, and carried into the harbour of Boston and other ports, where they have been rifled of their cargoes, by orders of his majesty's naval and military officers, there commanding, without the said vessels having been proceeded against by any form of trial, and without the charge of having offended against any law.

And whereas orders have been issued in his majesty's name, to the commanders of his ships of war, "to proceed as in the case of actual rebellion against such of the sea-port towns and places being accessible to the king's ships, in which any troops shall be raised or military works erected," under colour of which said orders, the commanders of his majesty's said ships of war, have already burned and destroyed the flourishing and populous town of Falmouth, and have fired upon and much injured several other towns within the United Colonies, and dispersed at a late season of the year, hundreds of helpless women and children, with a savage hope that those may perish under the approaching rigours of the season, who may chance to escape destruction from fire and sword, a mode of warfare long exploded amongst civilized nations.

And whereas the good people of these colonies, sensibly affected by the destruction of their property, and other unprovoked injuries, have at last determined to prevent as much as possible a repetition thereof, and to procure some reparation for the same, by fitting out armed vessels and ships of force. In the execution of which commendable designs, it is possible that those who have not been instrumental in the unwarrantable violences abovementioned may suffer, unless some laws be made to regulate, and tribunals erected competent to determine the propriety of captures: Therefore resolved,

1st. That all such ships of war, frigates, sloops, cutters, and armed vessels as are or shall be employed in the present cruel and unjust war against the United Colonies, and shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by the inhabitants thereof, be seized and forfeited to, and for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

2d. *Resolved*, That all transport vessels in the same service, having on board any troops, arms, ammunition, clothing, provisions, or military or naval stores, of what kind soever, and all vessels to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying provisions or other necessaries to the British army or armies, or navy, that now are or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies, or any goods, wares, or merchandise for the use of such fleet or army, shall be liable to seizure, and with their cargoes shall be confiscated.

3d. That no master or commander of any vessel shall be entitled to cruize for, or make prize of any vessel or cargo before he shall have obtained a commission from the Congress, or from such person or persons as shall be for that purpose appointed in some one of the United Colonies.

4th. That it be and is hereby recommended to the several legislatures in the United Colonies, as soon as possible, to erect courts of justice, or give jurisdiction to the courts now in being for the purpose of determining concerning the captures to be made as foresaid, and to provide that all trials in such case be had by a jury under such qualifications, as to the respective legislatures shall seem expedient.

5th. That all prosecutions shall be commenced in the court of that colony in which the captures shall be made, but if no such court be at that time erected in the said colony, or if the capture be made on open sea, then the prosecution shall be in the court of such colony as the captor may find most convenient, provided that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed so as to enable the captor to remove his prize from any colony competent to determine concerning the seizure, after he shall have carried the vessel so seized within any harbour of the same.

6th. That in all cases an appeal shall be allowed to the Congress, or such person or persons as they shall appoint for the trial of appeals, provided the appeal be demanded within five days after definitive sentence, and such appeal be lodged with the secretary of Congress within forty days afterwards, and provided the party appealing shall give security to prosecute the said appeal to effect, and in case of the death of the secretary during the recess of Congress, then the said appeal to be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the meeting thereof.

7th. That when any vessel or vessels shall be fitted out at the expense of any private person or persons, then the captures made shall be to the use of the owner or owners of the said vessel or vessels; that where the vessels employed in the capture shall be fitted out at the expense of any of the United Colonies, then one-third of the prize taken shall be to the use of the captors, and the remaining two-thirds to the use of the said colony, and where the vessels so employed shall be fitted out at the continental charge, then one-third shall go to the captors, and the remaining two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies; provided, nevertheless, that if the capture be a vessel of war, then the captors shall be entitled to one-half of the value, and the remainder shall go to the colony or continent as the case may be, the necessary charges of condemnation of all prizes, being deducted before distribution made.

8th. That the captures heretofore made by vessels fitted out at the continental charge were justifiable, and that the distribution of the captor's share of the prizes by general Washington, be confirmed, which is as follows:

A captain or commander,	6 shares.	Mate,	1½ shares.
First lieutenant,	5 do.	Gunner,	1½ do.
Second lieutenant,	4 do.	Boatswain,	1½ do.
Surgeon,	4 do.	Gunner's mate,	1½ do.
Master,	3 do.	Serjeant,	1½ do.
Steward,	2 do.	Privates,	1 do.

*Resolved*, That that part of general Washington's letter of the 11th instant, respecting the capture of a vessel by the inhabitants of New-Hampshire, be referred to the committee, who brought in the foregoing report.

The Congress next took into consideration the rules and orders for the fleet of the United Colonies, but not having time to finish them,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of them be deferred till Monday next.

The orders of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, November 27, 1775.

A report prevailing that young Mr. Skene, who was a prisoner in Connecticut, has made his escape,

*Resolved*, That the delegates of Connecticut be a committee to enquire into the truth of that report.

*Resolved*, That orders issue to lord Sterling to collect the troops which were raised in New-Jersey (except the six companies which have been ordered to the fortresses on Hudson's river) and to place them in barracks in the eastern division of New-Jersey, as contiguous to New-York as can be, there to remain till further orders from Congress.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to the convention of New-York, requesting them to use their utmost endeavours to furnish the troops raised in New-Jersey for the defence of New-York, with as many arms as they can spare.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an adjutant and quartermaster for the battalion raised in the western division of New-Jersey, when

Mr. Ephraim Anderson was elected adjutant, and Mr. Buddel Ship, quartermaster.

*Resolved*, That the troops in the service of the continent be supplied with fuel and bedding at the expense of the continent.

*Resolved*, That an order for 3000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to be applied towards the pay of the battalion raised in said colony, the committee to account for the expenditure of the same.

A letter from general Washington of the 19th instant, enclosing a copy of a letter from colonel Arnold, of the 27th October, being received, was read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the disputes between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and after debate,

*Resolved*, That the same be recommitted, and that it be an instruction to the committee to hear evidence on the possession and jurisdiction of the lands in dispute, and reduce to writing such parts of the evidence as they shall think proper.

As three of the committee are absent, viz. Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Kinsey,

*Resolved*, That three members be elected in their stead.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Hooper.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, November 28, 1775.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the rules and orders for the navy of the United Colonies, and the same being debated by paragraphs, were agreed to as follows:

##### Rules for the regulation of the navy of the United Colonies.

The commanders of all ships and vessels belonging to the thirteen United Colonies, are strictly required to shew in themselves a good example of honor and virtue to their officers and men, and to be very vigilant in inspecting the behaviour of all such as are under them, and to discountenance and suppress all dissolute, immoral, and disorderly practices, and also such as are contrary to the rules of discipline and obedience, and to correct those who are guilty of the same, according to the usage of the sea.

The commanders of the ships of the thirteen United Colonies, are to take care that divine service be performed twice a day on board, and a sermon preached on Sundays, unless bad weather or other extraordinary accidents prevent.

If any shall be heard to swear, curse, or blaspheme the name of God, the commander is strictly enjoined to punish them for every offence, by causing them to wear a wooden collar, or some other shameful badge of distinction, for so long time as he shall judge proper. If he be a commissioned officer, he shall forfeit one shilling for each offence, and a warrant or inferior officer six pence. He who is guilty of drunkenness, if a seaman, shall be put in irons until he is sober, but if an officer, he shall forfeit two days' pay.

No commander shall inflict any punishment upon a seaman beyond twelve lashes upon his bare back, with a cat of nine tails; if the fault shall deserve a greater punishment, he is to apply to the commander in chief of the navy, in

order to the trying of him by a court martial, and in the mean time, he may put him under confinement.

The commander is never by his own authority to discharge a commission or warrant officer, nor to punish or strike him, but he may suspend or confine them, and when he comes in the way of a commander in chief, apply to him for holding a court martial.

The officer who commands by accident of the captain or commander's absence (unless he be absent for a time by leave) shall not order any correction, but confinement, and upon the captain's return on board, he shall then give an account of his reasons for so doing.

The captain is to cause the articles of war to be hung up in some public place of the ship, and read to the ship's company once a month.

Whenever a captain shall enlist a seaman, he shall take care to enter on his books the time and terms of his entering, in order to his being justly paid.

The captain shall, before he sails, make return to, and leave with the Congress, or such person or persons as the Congress shall appoint for that purpose, a complete list of all his officers and men, with the time and terms of their entering; and during his cruize shall keep a true account of the desertion or death of any of them, and of the entering of others, and after his cruize, and before any of them are paid off, he shall make return of a complete list of the same, including those who shall remain on board his ship.

The men shall, at their request, be furnished with slops that are necessary by the captain or purser, who shall keep an account of the same, and the captain, in his return in the last mentioned article directed to be made, shall mention the amount delivered to each man, in order to its being stopped out of his pay.

As to the term "inferior officer," the captain is to take notice that the same does not include any commission nor any warrant officer, except the second master, surgeon's mate, cook, armorer, gun-smith, master at arms, and sail-maker.

The captain is to take care when any inferior officers or volunteer seamen are turned over into the ship under his command from any other ship, not to rate them on the ship's books in a worse quality, or lower degree or station, than they served in the ship they were removed from; and for his guidance he is to demand from the commander of the ship from which they are turned over, a list, under his hand, of their names and qualities.

Any officer, seaman, or others, entitled to wages or prize money, may have the same paid to his assignee, provided the assignment be attested by the captain or commander, the master or purser of the ship, or a chief magistrate of some county or corporation.

The captain is to discourage the seamen of his ship from selling any part of their wages or shares, and never to attest the letter of attorney of any seaman, until he is fully satisfied that the same is not granted in consideration of money given for the purchase of his wages or shares.

When any inferior officer or seaman dies, the captain is forthwith to make out a ticket for the time of his service, and to send the same by the first safe conveyance to the Congress, or agents by them for that purpose appointed, in order to the wages being forthwith paid to the executors or administrators of the deceased.

A convenient place shall be set apart for sick or hurt men, to which they are to be removed, with their hammocks and bedding, when the surgeon shall advise the same to be necessary, and some of the crew shall be appointed to attend and serve them, and to keep the place clean.

The cooper shall make buckets with covers and cradles, if necessary, for their use.

All ships furnished with fishing tackle, being in such places where fish is to be had, the captain is to employ some of the company in fishing; the fish to be

distributed daily to such persons as are sick or upon recovery, provided the surgeon recommend it, and the surplus, by turns amongst the messes of the officers and seamen gratis, without any deduction of their allowance of provisions on that account.

It is left to the discretion of commanders of squadrons, to shorten the allowance of provisions according to the exigence of the service, taking care that the men be punctually paid for the same.

The like power is given to captains of single ships in cases of absolute necessity.

If there should be a want of pork, the captain is to order three pounds of beef to be issued to the men, in lieu of two pounds of pork.

One day in every week shall be issued out a proportion of flour and suet, in lieu of beef, for the seamen, but this is not to extend beyond four months' victualling at one time, nor shall the purser receive any allowance for flour or suet kept longer on board than that time, and there shall be supplied, once a year, a proportion of canvass for pudding-bags, after the rate of one ell for every sixteen men.

If any ships of the thirteen United Colonies, shall happen to come into port in want of provisions, the warrant of a commander in chief shall be sufficient to the agent or other instrument of the victualling, to supply the quantity wanted, and in urgent cases where delay may be hurtful, the warrant of the captain of the ship shall be of equal effect.

The captain is frequently to order the proper officers to inspect the condition of the provisions, and if the bread proves damp, to have it aired upon the quarter deck or poop, and also examine the flesh cask, and if any of the pickle be leaked out, to have new made and put in, and the cask made tight and secure.

The captain or purser shall secure the clothes, bedding, and other things of such persons as shall die or be killed, to be delivered to their executors or administrators.

All papers, charter parties, bills of lading, passports, and other writings whatsoever, found on board any ship or ships, which shall be taken, shall be carefully preserved, and the originals sent to the court of justice for maritime affairs, appointed or to be appointed by the legislatures in the respective colonies, for judging concerning such prize or prizes; and if any person or persons shall wilfully or negligently destroy or suffer to be destroyed, any such paper or papers, he or they so offending, shall forfeit their share of such prize or prizes, and suffer such other punishment, as they shall be judged by a court-martial to deserve.

If any person or persons shall embezzle, or steal, or take away any cables, anchors, sails, or any of the ship's furniture, or any of the powder, arms, ammunition, or provisions of any ship belonging to the thirteen United Colonies, he or they shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial shall order.

When in sight of a ship or ships of the enemy, and at such other times as may appear to make it necessary to prepare for an engagement, the captain shall order all things in his ship in a proper posture for fight, and shall, in his own person, and according to his duty, heart on and encourage the inferior officers and men to fight courageously, and not to behave themselves faintly or cry for quarters, on pain of such punishment as the offence shall appear to deserve for his neglect.

Any captain or brother officer, mariner, or others, who shall basely desert their duty or station in the ship, and run away while the enemy is in sight, or, in time of action, shall entice others to do so, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall inflict.

Any officer, seaman, or marine, who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition in the ship to which he belongs, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall direct. Any person in or belonging to the ship, who shall utter any words of sedition

and mutiny, or endeavor to make any mutinous assemblies on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial shall inflict.

None shall presume to quarrel with or strike his superior officer, on pain of such punishment as a court-martial shall order to be inflicted.

If any person shall apprehend he has just cause of complaint, he shall quietly and decently make the same known to his superior officer, or to the captain, as the case may require, who shall take care that justice be done him.

There shall be no quarrelling or fighting between ship-mates on board any ship belonging to the thirteen United Colonies, nor shall there be used any reproachful or provoking speeches, tending to make quarrels and disturbance, on pain of imprisonment, and such other punishment, as a court-martial shall judge proper to inflict.

If any person shall sleep upon his watch, or negligently perform the duty which shall be enjoined him to do, or forsake his station, he shall suffer such punishment as a court-martial shall judge proper to inflict, according to the nature of his offence.

All murder shall be punished with death.

All robbery and theft shall be punished at the discretion of a court-martial.

Any master at arms who shall refuse to receive such prisoner or prisoners, as shall be committed to his charge, or having received them, shall suffer him or them to escape, or dismiss them without orders for so doing, shall suffer in his or their stead, as a court-martial shall order and direct.

The captains, officers, and others, shall use their utmost endeavors to detect, apprehend, and bring to punishment, all offenders, and shall at all times readily assist the officers appointed for that purpose in the discharge of their duty, on pain of being proceeded against, and punished by a court-martial at discretion.

All other faults, disorders, and misdemeanors, which shall be committed on board any ship belonging to the thirteen United Colonies, and which are not herein mentioned, shall be punished according to the laws and customs in such cases at sea.

A court-martial shall consist of at least three captains and three first lieutenants, with three captains and three first lieutenants of marines, if there shall be so many of the marines then present, and the eldest captain shall preside.

All sea officers of the same denomination shall take rank of the officers of marines.

Every member of a court-martial shall take the following oath, viz :

You swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules of the navy of the United Colonies. So help you God : which oath shall be administered by the president to the other members, and the president shall himself be sworn by the officer in said court next in rank.

All witnesses, before they may be admitted to give evidence, shall take the following oath :

" You swear the evidence you shall give, in the cause now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." So help you God.

The sentence of a court-martial for any capital offence, shall not be put in execution, until it be confirmed by the commander in chief of the fleet; and it shall be the duty of the president of every court-martial, to transmit to the commander in chief of the fleet, every sentence which shall be given, with a summary of the evidence and proceedings thereon, by the first opportunity.

The commander in chief of the fleet, for the time being, shall have power to pardon and remit any sentence of death, that shall be given in consequence of any of the aforementioned articles.

There shall be allowed to each man serving on board the ships in the service of the thirteen United Colonies, a daily proportion of provisions, according as is expressed in the following table, viz.

Sunday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips.

Monday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, half pint peas, and four ounces cheese.

Tuesday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding.

Wednesday, 1 lb. bread, two ounces butter, four ounces cheese, and half pint of rice.

Thursday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, and half pint of peas.

Friday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes or turnips, and pudding.

Saturday, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. pork, half pint peas, and four ounces cheese.

Half pint of rum per man every day, and discretionary allowance on extra duty, and in time of engagement.

A pint and half of vinegar for six men per week.

The pay of the officers and men shall be as follows\*:

Captain or commander,	32	dollars,	} Per Calendar month.	Cooper,	15	dollars,	} Per Calendar month.
Lieutenants,	20	do.		Captain's clerk,	15	do.	
Master,	20	do.		Steward,	13 1-3	do.	
Mates,	15	do.		Chaplain,	20	do.	
Boatswain,	15	do.		Able seaman,	6 2-3	do.	
Boatswain's first mate,	9 1-2	do.		Captain of marines,	26 2-3	do.	
Ditto, second ditto,	8	do.		Lieutenants,	18	do.	
Gunner,	15	do.		Serjeants,	8	do.	
Ditto mate,	10 1-3	do.		Corporals,	7 1-3	do.	
Surgeon,	21 1-3	do.		Fifer,	7 1-3	do.	
Surgeon's mate,	13 1-3	do.		Drummer,	7 1-3	do.	
Carpenter,	15	do.		Privates or marines,	6 2-3	do.	
Carpenter's mate,	10 2-3	do.					

#### ORDERS OF CONGRESS.

We, whose hands and marks are hereunto set and subscribed, being officers, seamen, and marines, do, and each of us doth agree to and with of the good ship, called the \_\_\_\_\_ belonging to the thirteen United Colonies of North America, in manner and form following, that is to say:

In the first place, we do hereby agree for, by and under the considerations aftermentioned, to and with the said commander, forthwith to enter and ship ourselves, and in due and seasonable time, to repair on board the said ship, called the \_\_\_\_\_ and during the term of \_\_\_\_\_ months, to the utmost of our power and ability respectively, to discharge our several services or stations, and in every thing to be conformable and obedient to the several requirements and lawful commands of the said \_\_\_\_\_ and his successors, in command.

*Secondly*, We do also oblige and subject ourselves to serve on board the said ship during the said cruize, and as she is a ship of war, we do severally oblige ourselves by these articles, to comply with, and be subject to the rules and discipline of the American fleet, as established by the Congress, and to be governed and commanded in time of action with an enemy, according to the same rules, and submit ourselves to the same punishments and penalties as are there inflicted, in case we or any of us offer to desert our quarters, or not obey the commands of the said \_\_\_\_\_ or his successors in command, in giving chase to any ship or ships, vessel or vessels, or otherwise, and if upon a scrutiny of our said \_\_\_\_\_ or his said officers, we or any of us should be found guilty of any breach contrary to the tenor of this agreement, or any act of cowardice, we do hereby severally submit and agree to allow and forfeit our several and respective shares of and in any prize or prizes, we shall then have taken, to be divided amongst the said ship's company.

*Thirdly*, We do also severally agree and oblige ourselves, that when any prize or prizes have been taken, to follow the express directions of the said \_\_\_\_\_ or his successors, in boarding the said prize, and be under the command of any officer whom the said \_\_\_\_\_ shall appoint, and be

\* See 13th and 19th of December, 1775-

assisting to him to carry the said prize to whatever port or ports such prize or prizes shall be assigned by the said **And we do hereby further severally agree and covenant in that case, to be true and faithful in discharge of our duty and trust, and will not, in any shape, embezzle, defraud, or plunder any thing on board such prize or prizes; and in case any or either of us shall be found guilty of any breach contrary to the true meaning of this agreement, we, and such of us being guilty thereof, do hereby severally submit and agree to allow so much of all and every of our shares, and part of our shares of and in the said prize or prizes then or thence after to be taken, and of all our respective wages, that then shall be due and coming to us, in respect to our services, as shall make good such plunder and embezzlement, we shall have been found guilty of.**

**Fourthly,** And it is also further agreed to be the true intent and meaning of all parties hereto, that the officer or officers, or any of the ship's company sent on board any prize, shall have as good a share and interest of any prize that shall be thereafter taken, during his or their absence, as if he or they had been on board the said vessel, at the time of taking thereof, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided always, and it is hereby agreed to be the meaning of the said last mentioned clause, that if the said officer or officers, and such of the said ship's company, to whom the conduct and management of any prize has been entrusted, do not (first having accepted the commands of the said commander concerning the said prize under his or their custody) immediately repair to the respective port or harbor where the said **or his successors in command shall order, or do not proceed with the said prize or prizes so taken, to the respective port or ports to be assigned by the said for the time being, that then, and in failure of any or either of the agreements aforesaid, contained on our parts, we and each and every of us so offending, do hereby severally submit and agree to be cashiered, not only for our several and respective interests and shares of and in the capture of prize-money, but totally to be excluded and divested from the payment of any wages then due us, for and in respect of our several services on board the said ship and the interest and shares of such delinquents, that otherwise would have accrued to us.**

**Fifthly,** And the said **for and in behalf of himself and the thirteen United Colonies of North America, do hereby covenant and agree to and with the said officers, seamen, and marines, whose names or marks are hereto set and subscribed, to pay them in consideration of such services, so much money per month, as in a schedule here-under mentioned, is set opposite to the names or marks of each respective officer, seaman, or landman; and likewise to advance to each and every of them, one month's pay at entrance, (due security for the same being first given) the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge.**

**Sixthly,** And as an encouragement to exert the valor of the seamen and marines in defending the said ship, and in subduing and distressing the said enemy, the said **for and on behalf of the thirteen United Colonies of North-America, doth further covenant, promise, and agree to and with all and every the officers, seamen and marines, parties hereto, that in case any prize or prizes shall be taken by the said ship, during the intended cruize, that the same shall be proceeded against, and distributed according to the resolutions of Congress.**

**Seventhly,** And it is by these presents mutually agreed and consented to, by, and between the said **and every the officers, seamen, and marines, parties hereto, that in case the commander, for the time being, lose a limb, in an engagement, or be otherwise disabled, so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a livelihood to subsist upon, he shall receive out of the nett profits of such prize or prizes, or prize-goods, if so much arise, before dividend or**

distribution be declared, the sum of four hundred dollars ; or if he lose his life, his widow or children (if any) shall receive the said bounty of four hundred dollars, together with all prize-money to him belonging at the time of his decease. And if the captain of marines, or any other commission or warrant officer lose a limb, or be otherwise disabled, so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a subsistence, he or they so disabled, shall receive a bounty of three hundred dollars, if so much arise from the nett profits as aforesaid ; and in case of death, the widow or children, (if any) is, are, and shall be entitled to the same, together with their share of prize-money due at the time of their decease. And if an inferior officer, seaman, or marine, lose a limb, or be otherwise disabled, so as to be rendered incapable afterwards of getting a subsistence, he or they shall receive a bounty of 200 dollars, to be deducted as aforesaid ; and in case of death, his widow or children, (if any) is, are, and shall be entitled to the same, together with his share of prize-money due at the time of his decease.

He who first discovers a ship or vessel which shall afterwards become a prize, shall be entitled to a double share of such prize.

There shall be ten shares of every prize, which shall be taken and condemned, set apart to be given to such inferior officers, seamen and marines, as shall be adjudged best to deserve them by the superior officers, who shall be appointed to make such determination.

He who shall first board a ship or other vessel, making resistance, which shall become a prize, shall be entitled to a triple share.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of the parties to the aforementioned articles and orders, that any of the officers, seamen, and marines, shall be liable to be removed by the Congress or committee of the Congress, during the recess thereof, or by the commander in chief of the American fleet, for the time being, from the aforesaid vessel to any other armed vessel in the service of the United Colonies, any thing contained in the foregoing orders and articles notwithstanding.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on North-Carolina : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the two battalions which the Congress directed to be raised in the colony of North-Carolina, be increased to the continental establishment, and kept in pay at the expense of the United Colonies for one year from this time, or until the farther order of Congress, as well for the purpose of defending the good people of that colony against the attacks of ministerial oppression, as assisting the adjacent colonies.

That application be made to the councils of safety of the colonies of Pennsylvania and South-Carolina, for so much gun-powder as can be spared for the immediate supply of North-Carolina.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of the colony of North Carolina be directed to purchase a number of drums, fifes and colors, suitable for the said battalions, and that the president be directed to draw on the continental treasurers for a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars for the payment thereof.

That the convention or committee of safety of North-Carolina be desired to employ, immediately, all the gun-smiths in that colony, in the making of muskets and bayonets, of the size and in the manner recommended by Congress the 4th of this inst. November.

That two ministers of the gospel be applied to, to go immediately amongst the regulators and highlanders in the colony of North-Carolina, for the purpose of informing them of the nature of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the colonies ; that the gentlemen to be employed be allowed forty dollars a month for their services, and that the delegates of the said colony be empowered to apply to and procure persons proper for this business.

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of North-Carolina, in case the method of defending the said colony by minute-men be in-

adequate to the purpose, to substitute such other mode as to them shall appear most likely to effect the security of that colony.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the memorials of the tea-holders, and the same being debated,

On the question put to agree to it,

Carried in the negative.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, November 29, 1775.

A letter from general Schuyler, by express, being received, was read, containing an account of the continental troops, under brigadier general Montgomery, having taken possession of Montreal on the 12th inst.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Downham Newton, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said Downham Newton be permitted to export on board his vessel, on the terms proposed in his petition, such provisions of pork and flour as he shall think proper.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the treasury, and thereupon came to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That bills of credit be emitted by Congress to the amount of three millions of dollars.

That the committee on the state of the treasury be directed to consult the printer, and report the numbers and denominations of the bills to be emitted, and that they contract for proper paper for printing the said bills.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the agents, brought in the same, which being read and debated, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That a fair copy be made, signed and forwarded.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed for the sole purpose of corresponding with our friends in Great Britain, Ireland, and other parts of the world, and that they lay their correspondence before Congress when directed.

*Resolved*, That Congress will make provision to defray all such expenses as may arise by carrying on such a correspondence, and for the payment of such agents as they may send on this service.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Jay.

The committee on the proclamations brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### THURSDAY, November 30, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to revise the journal of last session be directed to revise the journal of the present, in order to its being printed; and that it be an instruction to the said committee, to examine whether it will yet be proper to publish any of those parts omitted in the journal of last session.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wythe be added to the said committee in the room of Mr. J. Rutledge, who is absent.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare letters of thanks to the three general officers in the northern department for their services.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Jay.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of general Washington's letter, and thereupon came to the following resolutions :

**Resolved**, That the general be directed to suspend the raising the two battalions of marines out of his present army.

That the two battalions of marines be raised, independent of the army already ordered for the service in Massachusetts-Bay.

That no bounty be allowed to the army on re-inlistment.

Sundry letters from general Schuyler, W. Livingston, esq. and the committee sent to the northward, being received, were read.

**Resolved**, That the farther consideration of the general's letter and the other matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, December 1, 1775.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the letter from general Washington, : Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the 500,000 dollars lately ordered, be forwarded, with all possible expedition, to general Washington, that he may be enabled to pay such soldiers as will re-inlist, for the succeeding year, the wages for their months of October, November and December, and also advance them one month's pay.

That the governments of New-England be informed of the resolution of Congress relative to the pay ordered to be made and advanced to the army, and be desired to promote the recruiting service in the present army, as well as in their several colonies.

A letter from the committee of Frederick-Town, in Maryland, was received and read, containing an account of their having apprehended major Connolly and his associates, and desiring the advice of Congress with regard to the prisoners.

**Resolved**, That the said letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the delegates of Virginia.

**Resolved**, That the farther consideration of the general's letter, and the other matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, December 2, 1775.

A letter from the committee of Northampton, in Virginia, with sundry papers enclosed, was received and read.

**Resolved**, That the same be referred to the committee on the state of Virginia.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Paca be added to that committee in the room of Mr. Johnson, who is absent.

**Resolved**, That the naval committee be directed to confer with captain Stone, and engage him and his vessel, on the most reasonable terms, in the service of the continent, for the purpose of taking or destroying the cutters and armed vessels in Chesapeake-Bay, under lord Dunmore.

**Resolved**, That colonel Harrison do immediately proceed to Maryland, and be empowered with the delegates of that colony, or any one or more of them, to take such measures, as appear to them most effectual to procure, with all possible despatch, two or three armed vessels to cruize on, take or destroy armed vessels, cutters, and ships of war of the enemy, that may be found in the bay of Chesapeake, or coasts of Virginia and Maryland.

Whereas, designs are formed by certain ministerial partizans in the counties of Norfolk and Princess-Ann, and some other parts of Virginia, on Chesapeake-Bay, under the influence of lord Dunmore, to contravene the non-exportation agreement, by exporting provisions and other produce of that country to the West-India islands, and thereby injure the interest and weaken

the efforts of the United Colonies, in opposing the present oppressive system of the British ministry,

*Resolved*, That the said armed vessels be authorized and directed to seize and detain, until the further order of this Congress, all such ships and vessels as they may find employed in such exportations from the places aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the naval committee be directed to employ the armed sloop, commanded by captain Abraham Whipple, of Rhode-Island, now on a voyage to this port, and despatch her forthwith to aid the marine business to the southward.

That the said committee be directed to prepare a proper commission for the captains or commanders of the ships of war in the service of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the colonel, or commanding officer of the battalion, now in the barracks at Philadelphia, be ordered to keep a regular guard over the ships and stores belonging to the United Colonies, at or on the wharves, or in the stores on the wharves of Messrs. Willing and Morris, and Mr. Cuthbert.

The assembly of New-Jersey having, by a resolution of their house, accepted the resignation of two of their delegates, and confirmed the other three, and, by another resolution, enlarged their power, the said resolutions were laid before Congress and read as follows:

“NEW-JERSEY, HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, *November 22, 1775.*

The house, taking into consideration the request of Jame Kinsey and John De Hart, esqrs. two of the delegates appointed by this house to attend the Continental Congress, for leave to resign their said appointment,

*Resolved*, That the reasons given by those gentlemen for their resignation, appear to this house to be satisfactory, and that their resignation therefore be accepted; thereupon,

*Resolved*, That the three remaining delegates, or any two of them, represent the colony during the present continental Congress.

THURSDAY, *November 30, 1775.*

The house, taking into consideration the inconveniences arising from requiring the attendance of two of the delegates to represent the colony in the Continental Congress,

*Resolved*, That any one of the three delegates appointed to attend the Congress be, and such delegate is hereby fully authorized to represent this colony during Congress.

A true copy from the votes,  
RICHARD SMITH, *Clerk of Assembly.*”

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a commission, reported the same, which was read and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That three hundred copies be immediately printed, with proper blanks.

Application being made in behalf of captain Jenkins, for leave to export a quantity of provisions to the island of Nantucket, for the internal consumption of its inhabitants, and it being represented that he had applied to the assembly or general court of Massachusetts-Bay, and that the committee of Falmouth, to whom he was by them referred, not having it in their power to furnish the provisions wanted, had recommended him to Congress to be supplied with the same at some port in the middle or southern colonies.

*Resolved*, That permission be granted to captain Jenkins, to carry the provisions specified in the certificate of the committee of Falmouth, for the internal consumption of the inhabitants of Nantucket, he first taking an oath, and giving bond to the committee of inspection and observation, for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, to pursue their instructions in his voyage, and to use his ut-

most endeavors not to fall into the power of the cutters or armed vessels of the enemy.

The committee on the state of the treasury brought in a report, which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the number and denominations of the bills ordered to be emitted, be as follows :

83,334 of 8 dollars each,

83,333 of 7 do.

83,333 of 6 do.

83,333 of 5 do.

83,334 of 4 dollars each.

83,333 of 3 do.

83,333 of 2 do.

83,333 of 1 do.

*Resolved*, That the plates used in the last emission, be used for striking off and printing the above bills.

*Resolved*, That the gentlemen who superintended the press at the last emission, be empowered to superintend the printing these bills.

*Resolved*, That the committee on the state of the treasury, be directed to enquire about proper persons to sign and number said bills, and report to Congress.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the general's letter: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the regiment of artillery consist of one colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors and twelve companies.

That the general be informed that two gentlemen, namely, Thomas Crafts, jun. and George Trott, esqrs. have been recommended to Congress as proper persons for field officers in said regiment, and that the general enquire into their characters and abilities; and if, upon enquiry, he shall judge them proper, and that the appointment of them will occasion no disturbance or disgust in the regiment, that he appoint them, and acquaint Congress thereof.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to contract for supplying the prisoners, that Mr. D. Franks, of this city, be permitted to supply the troops, who are prisoners in this colony, with provisions and other necessaries, at the expense of the crown, and to sell his bills for such sums of money as are necessary for that purpose, and that the said committee confer with Mr. Franks, and enquire whether he will also undertake, on the same terms, to supply the prisoners in other colonies.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of conference: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assembly, or general court of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, to use all the means in their power, that the army before Boston be supplied with wood and hay, on the most reasonable terms.

That in the new establishment of the army, the general officers be not allowed regiments, nor the field officers companies.

That all persons taken in arms on board any prize, be deemed prisoners at the disposal of the general, whether the prize be taken by vessels fitted out in the pay of the continent or by others.

That such as are taken be treated as prisoners of war, but with humanity, and be allowed the same rations as the troops in the service of the continent; that the officers being in pay should supply themselves with clothes, their bills to be taken for the same, that the soldiers be furnished as they now are.

That as the new army in Massachusetts-Bay is calculated to oppose the army at Boston, it is not expected that the general should detach any part of it to New-York or elsewhere, unless it appear to him necessary so to do, for the common safety.

That the troops in the new army be paid monthly.

That an exchange of prisoners will be proper, citizens for citizens, officers for officers of equal rank, and soldier for soldier.

That ensign Moland be detained in the place where he now is, until exchanged.

That this Congress approve the terms on which the artificers of different sorts have been employed in the army; and that the general go on upon the present agreement, as being the best that can probably be made.

That the general be directed to pick out from each of the rifle companies, such as are not marksmen, and dismiss them in such manner as will be safest, with an allowance of pay to go home, if they do not chuse to enlist in other battalions, and, in the mean time, that all receive their pay.

That what artillery of different kinds can be spared from New-York and Crown-Point, be procured and forwarded to the army before Boston.

That the Indians of St. Francis, Penobscot, Stockbridge, and St. John's, and other tribes, may be called on in case of real necessity, and that the giving them presents is suitable and proper.

That a committee of three be appointed to devise the best mode of having expresses (persons of character) posted along the roads at different distances, for the purpose of conveying early and frequent intelligence.

The members chosen, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Deane.

That as much lead as can be spared from the northern department, and is wanted at the camp at Cambridge, be sent down from Ticonderoga to Cambridge.

That the Congress approve the general's fitting out armed vessels to intercept the enemy's supplies.

That when the army receives such supplies of powder as to be enabled to spare some to the country, that it be sold to them at a reasonable price.

That the secret committee be directed to enquire what articles are necessary for the use of the army, and how they may be procured, and report to Congress.

*Ordered*, That the resolutions passed on the general's letters, and on the report of the committee of conference, and such other resolutions as relate to the establishment of the new army, not already forwarded, be sent by express to the general.

The Congress being informed that Mr. Eathan Allen, who was taken prisoner near Montreal, is confined in irons on board a vessel in the river St. Lawrence,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to apply to general Howe on this matter, and desire that he may be exchanged.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, December 4, 1775.

The committee, to whom the accounts from Massachusetts-Bay were referred, reported, that for want of proper vouchers, they were not able to proceed on that business, and therefore desired to be discharged.

*Resolved*, That the said committee, upon their request, be discharged.

*Resolved*, That the sum of forty thousand dollars be advanced to the colony of New-Hampshire, on account of expenses by them incurred, the said colony to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of four hundred and forty-three thousand, three hundred and thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar, be paid to the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in part of their account, the said colony to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the said sums be paid out of the emission last ordered by Congress.

The committee on the state of Virginia, to whom were referred the letters received on Saturday last, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That three companies of the battalion raised in the colony of Pennsylvania, immediately march under the command of lieutenant-colonel Irvine.

into Northampton county, is Virginia, for the protection of the association in those parts, and for the defence thereof against the designs of the enemies of America.

*Resolved*, That it be and it is hereby recommended to the inhabitants of the colony of Virginia, to resist to the utmost the arbitrary government intended to be established therein, by their governor lord Dunmore, as manifestly appears by the whole tenor of his lordship's conduct for some months past.

Whereas lord Dunmore, by his proclamation lately published, has declared his intention to execute martial law, thereby tearing up the foundations of civil authority and government within the said colony:

*Resolved*, Therefore, that if the convention of Virginia shall find it necessary to establish a form of government in that colony, it be recommended to that convention to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the said representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such form of government as in their judgment will best produce the happiness of the people, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between Great-Britain and the colonies.

*Resolved*, That the committee on the state of Virginia have leave, at their request, to sit again.

*Resolved*, That in the present situation of affairs, it will be very dangerous to the liberties and welfare of America, if any colony should separately petition the king or either house of parliament.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the assembly of New-Jersey.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Jay.

*Resolved*, That Carlisle, in the colony of Pennsylvania, be assigned as well as the three towns of Reading, Lancaster and York, for the reception of the prisoners taken at St. John's.

*Resolved*, That the president write to Mr. Knox, by the first express to Albany, and desire him, in case the services he is upon will admit, to repair to the fortresses on Hudson's river, in the highlands, inspect the state of the works carrying on there, and the situation of the places adjacent, and transmit an account thereof to Congress.

The delegates of Massachusetts-Bay laid before Congress a resolution of the general court of that colony, passed in November last, extending the commission of their delegates to the last day of January; which was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, December 5, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the naval committee be instructed to engage the seamen and marines to the first of January, 1777, unless sooner discharged by Congress.

It being suggested that the resolution of Congress, passed the 2d instant, relative to captain Jenkins, was grounded on a mistake with regard to facts,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take the matter into consideration, enquire into facts, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Cushing, and Mr. M'Kean.

The committee of claims applying for instructions with regard to sundry charges in the accounts laid before them from the colony of Rhode Island,

*Resolved*, That the charge for purchasing and repairing arms be not allowed.

That the expense of removing the stock from Block-Island and other places, in consequence of the request of the general, be charged to the continent.

That the twelve cannon furnished to the army in the camp at Cambridge, by the government of Rhode-Island, be allowed in their accounts.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of this matter be deferred till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That those who supply the three companies ordered to Northampton with arms, shall either have the same returned in kind as soon as they can be procured, or their value paid for by the United Colonies, the value of which is to be deducted from the pay of the soldiers.

A letter from lord Sterling, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the naval committee has liberty to purchase duck and such other articles as they may want for fitting out said vessels, and to enable them the better to perform this service, that they be empowered to take to their assistance the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the form of the bills ordered to be emitted be as follows :

### CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

	No.	Dollar	Spanish milled
This bill entitles the bearer to receive			
dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver; according to a resolution of Congress passed at Philadelphia, November 29, 1775.			

*Resolved*, That each denomination or class of bills be numbered, beginning with one, upwards, in ink of a different color from the last emitted bills.

The committee on re-captures brought in their report, which being read and debated, the Congress came to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That, in cases of recaptures, the re-captors have and retain, in lieu of salvage, one-eighth part of the true value of the vessel and cargo, or either of them, if the same hath or have been in possession of the enemy twenty-four hours ; one-fifth part, if more than twenty-four hours, and less than forty-eight hours ; one-third part, if more than forty-eight and less than ninety-six hours ; and one half, if more than ninety-six hours, unless the vessel shall, after the capture, have been legally condemned as a prize by some court of admiralty, in which case the re-captors to have the whole ; in all which cases the share detained, or prize to be divided between the owners of the ship making the re-capture, the colony or the continent, as the case may be, and the captors, agreeable to a former resolution.

*Resolved*, As the army to the northward is likely to be supplied with clothing at Montreal, that the clothing purchased for the said army, and sent to Albany, be forwarded by land to Mr. Mifflin, quarter-master general, for the use of the army before Boston.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, December 6, 1775.

The committee of claims reported that there is due to Robert Ervin for wagon hire, the sum of 355.7 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the three prisoners taken by captain A. Whipple, in his passage to Philadelphia, who are now on board his vessel, be delivered to the committee of safety of the colony of Pennsylvania, who are directed to secure them in safe custody in some gaol in said colony.

A return being laid before Congress of the number of flints for sale in the city of Philadelphia, amounting to upwards of 200,000,

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia be desired to purchase said flints for the use of the United Colonies, and that in making the purchase, attention be paid to that part of the association against raising the prices of goods.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions to be given to the committee of claims, and on the question put,

*Resolved*, That the charge for bounty in the account exhibited by Rhode-Island against the United Colonies be not allowed.

The committee, to whom the petition of Dugal McGregor was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to as follows, viz.

*Resolved*, That the circumstances stated in the said petition will not justify a license to export the lumber and naval stores mentioned in the said petition, contrary to the rules of American association.

*Resolved*, That if the said Dugal McGregor will give bond, with sufficient security, in a penalty of double the value of the said lumber and naval stores, to the president of the provincial council of North-Carolina, with conditions that he will not carry the said cargo to Great-Britain, Ireland, Guernsey, Jersey, Sark, Aldernay, Man, or any European island or settlement within the British dominions, nor to the British West-Indies; and that he shall, within six months after exporting the same, import into Edenton, Newbern, or Bogue Inlet, in the colony of North-Carolina, and there deliver to the commander of the continental troops in the said colony, such quantity of muskets, or gun-powder, as shall be equal to the value of the said lumber and naval stores, the public interest requires that he be permitted to export the same, and that a permit for that purpose, signed by the said president, be given him on his executing such bond as aforesaid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on proclamations, which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

We, the delegates of the thirteen United Colonies in North-America, have taken into our most serious consideration, a proclamation issued from the court of St. James's on the twenty-third day of August last. The name of majesty is used to give it a sanction and influence; and, on that account, it becomes a matter of importance to wipe off, in the name of the people of these United Colonies, the aspersions which it is calculated to throw upon our cause; and to prevent, as far as possible, the undeserved punishments, which it is designed to prepare for our friends. We are accused of "forgetting the allegiance which we owe to the power that has protected and sustained us." Why all this ambiguity and obscurity in what ought to be so plain and obvious, as that he who runs may read it? What allegiance is it that we forget? Allegiance to parliament? We never owed—we never owned it. Allegiance to our king? Our words have ever avowed it, our conduct has ever been consistent with it. We condemn, and with arms in our hands,—a resource which freemen will never part with,—we oppose the claim and exercise of unconstitutional powers, to which neither the crown nor parliament were ever entitled. By the British constitution, our best inheritance, rights, as well as duties, descend upon us: We cannot violate the latter by defending the former: we should act in diametrical opposition to both, if we permitted the claims of the British parliament to be established, and the measures pursued in consequence of those claims to be carried into execution among us. Our sagacious ancestors provided wounds against the inundation of tyranny and lawless power on one side, as well as against that of faction and licentiousness on the other. On which side has the breach been made? Is it objected against us by the most inveterate and the most uncandid of our enemies, that we have opposed any of the just prerogatives of the crown, or any legal exertion of those prerogatives? Why then are we accused of forgetting our allegiance? we have performed our duty: We have resisted in those cases, in which the right to resist is stipulated as expressly on our part, as the right to govern is, in other cases, stipulated on the part of the crown. The breach of allegiance is removed from our resistance as far as tyranny is removed from legal government. It is alleged, that "we have proceeded to an open and avowed rebellion." In what does this rebellion consist. It is thus described—"Arraying ourselves in hostile manner, to withstand the execution of the law, and traiterously preparing, ordering, and levying war against the king." We know of no laws binding on us, but such as have been transmitted to us by our ancestors, and such as have

been consented to by ourselves, or our representatives elected for that purpose. What laws, stampd with these characters, have we withstood? We have indeed defended them; and we will risque every thing, do every thing, and suffer every thing in their defence. To support our laws, and our liberties established by our laws, we have prepared, ordered, and levied war. But is this traitorously, or against the king? We view him as the constitution represents him. That tells us he can do no wrong. The cruel and illegal attacks, which we oppose, have no foundation in the royal authority. We will not, on our part, lose the distinction between the king and his ministers: happy would it have been for some former princes, had it always been preserved on that part of the crown.

Besides all this, we observe, on this part of the proclamation, that "rebellion" is a term undefined and unknown in the law; it might have been expected that a proclamation, which by the British constitution has no other operation than merely that of enforcing what is already law, would have had a known legal basis to have rested upon. A correspondence between the inhabitants of Great-Britain and their brethren in America, produced, in better times, much satisfaction to individuals, and much advantage to the public. By what criterion shall one, who is unwilling to break off this correspondence, and is, at the same time, anxious not to expose himself to the dreadful consequences threatened in this proclamation—by what criterion shall he regulate his conduct? He is admonished not to carry on correspondence with the persons now in rebellion in the colonies. How shall he ascertain 'who are in rebellion, and who are not?' He consults the law to learn the nature of the supposed crime: the law is silent upon the subject. This, in a country where it has been often said, and formerly with justice, that the government is by law, and not by men, might render him perfectly easy. But proclamations have been sometimes dangerous engines in the hands of those in power; information is commanded to be given to one of the secretaries of state, of all persons "who shall be found carrying on correspondence with the persons in rebellion, in order to bring to condign punishment the authors, perpetrators, or abettors, of such dangerous designs." Let us suppose, for a moment, that some persons in the colonies are in rebellion, and that those who carry on correspondence with them, might learn by some rule, which Britons are bound to know, how to discriminate them, does it follow that all correspondence with them deserves to be punished? It might have been intended to apprise them of their danger, and to reclaim them from their crimes. By what law does correspondence with a criminal transfer or communicate his guilt? We know that those who aid and adhere to the king's enemies, and those who correspond with them in order to enable them to carry their designs into effect, are criminal in the eye of the law. But the law goes no farther. Can proclamations, according to the principles of reason and justice, and the constitution, go farther than the law?

But, perhaps the principles of reason and justice, and the constitution will not prevail: experience suggests to us the doubt. If they should not, we must resort to arguments drawn from a very different source. We, therefore, in the name of the people of these United Colonies, and by authority, according to the purest maxims of representation, derived from them, declare, that whatever punishment shall be inflicted upon any persons in the power of our enemies for favouring, aiding, or abetting the cause of American liberty, shall be retaliated in the same kind, and the same degree upon those in our power, who have favoured, aided, or abetted, or shall favour, aid, or abet the system of ministerial oppression. The essential difference between our cause, and that of our enemies, might justify a severer punishment: the law of retaliation will unquestionably warrant one equally severe.

We mean not, however, by this declaration, to occasion or to multiply punishments: our sole view is to prevent them. In this unhappy and unnatural

controversy, in which Britons fight against Britons, and the descendants of Britons, let the calamities immediately incident to a civil war suffice. We hope additions will not from wantonness be made to them on one side: we shall regret the necessity, if laid under the necessity, of making them on the other.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

A memorial from colonel Bull, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration on Friday next.

*Resolved*, That lieutenant Feltham, have leave to join the officers of the 26th regiment, and reside with them in the places destined for their reception.

*Resolved*, That major Preston, and the officer with him, remain in Philadelphia until farther orders from Congress.

*Ordered*, That the president inform major Preston of this resolution.

A letter from general Washington, dated 28th November, being received, was read.

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, December 7, 1775.

The Congress, being informed that the women and children taken at St. John's, with the baggage, were arrived,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of the colony of Pennsylvania, to have them removed in the cheapest manner, at the expense of the United Colonies, to the places assigned them.

*Resolved*, That lieutenant George Cuppidge, of the 26th regiment, be permitted to go to New-York for a week upon his parole, that he will neither speak nor write to any person upon any political subject, or give any intelligence whatsoever upon such topics, and will return to Philadelphia at the end of the week.

A letter from lord Sterling dated the 6th, was received and read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the general's letter of the 28th ult. came to the following resolutions:

Whereas doubts may arise respecting the true intent and construction of a certain resolution of Congress, passed the 4th day of November last, empowering the general, in case the necessity of the service should require it, to call forth the minute-men and militia of the New-England colonies,

*Resolved*, That the said resolution shall not extend or be construed to authorize the general to call forth the said minute-men or militia, without having applied to and obtained the consent of those officers, in whom the executive powers of government in those colonies may be vested.

*Resolved*, That the president write letters to the council of Massachusetts-Bay, the convention of New-Hampshire, and the governors of Rhode-Island and Connecticut, acquainting them with the present state of the army, and enclosing copies of the resolutions of this Congress, relative to the general's being empowered to call forth the militia of those governments, on any emergency, and requesting those colonies to exert themselves in defence of our common liberties, by affording the general all the aid in their power, and comply with his request for the assistance of the militia whenever he may find it necessary to apply for it.

A letter from general Schuyler of the 22d of November, together with a copy of a letter from general Montgomery of the 17th, and one from colonel Arnold of the 14th of the same month, being received, were read.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.



**FRIDAY, December 8, 1775.**

The committee, to whom the petition of captain Jenkins was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the letter from the committee of inspection of the county of Frederick, in Maryland, relative to Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, with the papers enclosed, was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, be confined in prison at Philadelphia, at the continental expense, until the further order of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the president transmit a copy of the above resolution to the committee of Frederick, and desire them, in pursuance thereof, to send the prisoners under guard to Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the petition of Jonathan Hudson, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Penn, and Mr. R. Morris.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letters from lord Sterling, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Mr. Thomas Lowry be appointed to supply the battalions raised in New-Jersey, with the rations and other necessaries allowed them, 31-360 of a dollar per ration.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Crane be directed to give Mr. Lowry proper orders for securing, for the use of the battalions raised in New-Jersey, the blankets in the barracks of that colony.

*Resolved*, That the companies of the two battalions raised in New-Jersey, not already ordered to the fort on Hudson's river, in the highlands, in the colony of New-York, be, and they are hereby ordered to march, as soon as they can be furnished with barrack-necessaries and arms, to the city of New-York, and there remain till further orders; and that four of the companies ordered to the fort in the highlands, be likewise stationed in the city of New-York, till barracks can be fitted up for them in that fort.

*Resolved*, That a surgeon be allowed to each battalion, in the service of the United Colonies; and that his pay be 25 dollars per calendar month.

Whereupon, William Barnet, jun. was elected surgeon to lord Sterling's, or the first battalion raised in New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That a standing committee, composed of a member from each colony, be appointed to receive the applications, and examine into the qualifications of the several persons, who apply for offices in the American army, and report to Congress.

The members are, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Ward, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Jay, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rodney, Mr. F. L. Lee, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Lynch.

*Resolved*, That the part of lord Sterling's letter, which respects the arresting and imprisoning soldiers for small sums, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Bedford, the deputy muster-master general, who is now in town, be directed to muster the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and make return to Congress as soon as possible.

The committee on establishing expresses, brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the letter from general Schuyler, with the enclosed letters from general Montgomery and colonel Arnold, be published.

The several matters to this day referred, being farther postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *December 9, 1775.*

**Resolved,** That the committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, be empowered to employ the following officers, and that their pay be as follows, viz :

Midshipman, 12 dollars per calendar month,	Quarter-master, 9 dollars per calendar month.
Armourer, 15 do. do.	Quarter-gunner, 8 do. do.
Sail-maker, 12 do. do.	Cook, 12 do. do.
Yeoman, 9 do. do.	Coxswain, 9 do. do.

Pilot according to the usual rates; when absolutely necessary, the commander to give such farther gratuity as may be necessary for the good of the service.

**Resolved,** That an order issue for raising four battalions more in the colony of Pennsylvania, on the same terms as the one already raised.

**Resolved,** That a like order issue for raising one battalion in the lower counties on Delaware, on the same terms as those ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania.

The Congress took into consideration the letters from general Schuyler, from the 11th of November inclusive, and thereupon came to the following resolutions :

**Resolved,** That the orders given to general Montgomery, to purchase clothing at Montreal, for the troops under his command, be and are approved.

**Resolved,** That the officers, who are prisoners, be allowed to sell their bills for their subsistence.

**Resolved,** That major Preston, captain Kinnear, captain Goodwin, and major Stopford, pay to the continental treasurers, the sums advanced them by general Schuyler, and that general Schuyler be informed of this resolution, and desired to send their obligations to the treasurers.

**Resolved,** That general Montgomery be appointed a major-general in the army of the United Colonies.

**Resolved,** That the sum of 166 dollars per month, be allowed to the commander for the time being, in the province of Canada, and residing there, for the expense of his table, over and above the pay, to which he may be entitled by his commission.

**Resolved,** That the several other matters in general Schuyler's letters, and the enclosed papers, except what relates to Mr. Phelps, be referred to a committee of three, who are to take the same into consideration, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Wythe.

**Resolved,** That the sum of 3000 dollars be advanced to Carpenter Wharton, who has contracted to supply the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, at 7.90 of a dollar per ration, the same to be paid him on his signing the contract, and giving security for the performance thereof.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to William Chew, for riding express to the salt-petre rock in Virginia, and bringing samples of the mineral, the sum of 84.3 dollars.

**Ordered,** That the above be paid.

Colonel Dyer produced an account, amounting to 1956 dollars, for medicines bought and forwarded to the camp at Cambridge.

**Resolved,** That an order be drawn on the treasurers in his favor for that sum.

The commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, laid before Congress the minutes of their proceedings.

**Ordered,** That the same be referred to Wednesday next.

**Resolved,** That Monday next be assigned for taking into consideration the instructions to the delegates of Rhode-Island.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

FRIDAY, *December 8, 1775.*

The committee, to whom the petition of captain Jenkins was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the letter from the committee of inspection of the county of Frederick, in Maryland, relative to Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, with the papers enclosed, was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said Allen Cameron, John Smith, and John Connolly, be confined in prison at Philadelphia, at the continental expense, until the further order of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the president transmit a copy of the above resolution to the committee of Frederick, and desire them, in pursuance thereof, to send the prisoners under guard to Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the petition of Jonathan Hudson, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Penn, and Mr. R. Morris.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letters from lord Sterling, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Mr. Thomas Lowry be appointed to supply the battalions raised in New-Jersey, with the rations and other necessaries allowed them, 31-360 of a dollar per ration.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Crane be directed to give Mr. Lowry proper orders for securing, for the use of the battalions raised in New-Jersey, the blankets in the barracks of that colony.

*Resolved*, That the companies of the two battalions raised in New-Jersey, not already ordered to the fort on Hudson's river, in the highlands, in the colony of New-York, be, and they are hereby ordered to march, as soon as they can be furnished with barrack-necessaries and arms, to the city of New-York, and there remain till further orders; and that four of the companies ordered to the fort in the highlands, be likewise stationed in the city of New-York, till barracks can be fitted up for them in that fort.

*Resolved*, That a surgeon be allowed to each battalion, in the service of the United Colonies; and that his pay be 25 dollars per calendar month.

Whereupon, William Barnet, jun. was elected surgeon to lord Sterling's, or the first battalion raised in New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That a standing committee, composed of a member from each colony, be appointed to receive the applications, and examine into the qualifications of the several persons, who apply for offices in the American army, and report to Congress.

The members are, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Ward, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Jay, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Allen, Mr. Rodney, Mr. F. L. Lee, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Lynch.

*Resolved*, That the part of lord Sterling's letter, which respects the arresting and imprisoning soldiers for small sums, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. W. Livingston.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Bedford, the deputy muster-master general, who is now in town, be directed to muster the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and make return to Congress as soon as possible.

The committee on establishing expresses, brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the letter from general Schuyler, with the enclosed letters from general Montgomery and colonel Arnold, be published.

The several matters to this day referred, being farther postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *December 9, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, be empowered to employ the following officers, and that their pay be as follows, viz :

Midshipman, 12 dollars per calendar month,	Quarter-master, 9 dollars per calendar month.
Armourer, 15 do. do.	Quarter-gunner, 8 do. do.
Sail-maker, 12 do. do.	Cook, 12 do. do.
Yeoman, 9 do. do.	Coxswain, 9 do. do.

Pilot according to the usual rates; when absolutely necessary, the commander to give such farther gratuity as may be necessary for the good of the service.

*Resolved*, That an order issue for raising four battalions more in the colony of Pennsylvania, on the same terms as the one already raised.

*Resolved*, That a like order issue for raising one battalion in the lower counties on Delaware, on the same terms as those ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania.

The Congress took into consideration the letters from general Schuyler, from the 11th of November inclusive, and thereupon came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the orders given to general Montgomery, to purchase clothing at Montreal, for the troops under his command, be and are approved.

*Resolved*, That the officers, who are prisoners, be allowed to sell their bills for their subsistence.

*Resolved*, That major Preston, captain Kinnear, captain Goodwin, and major Stopford, pay to the continental treasurers, the sums advanced them by general Schuyler, and that general Schuyler be informed of this resolution, and desired to send their obligations to the treasurers.

*Resolved*, That general Montgomery be appointed a major-general in the army of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 166 dollars per month, be allowed to the commander for the time being, in the province of Canada, and residing there, for the expense of his table, over and above the pay, to which he may be entitled by his commission.

*Resolved*, That the several other matters in general Schuyler's letters, and the enclosed papers, except what relates to Mr. Phelps, be referred to a committee of three, who are to take the same into consideration, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Wythe.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3000 dollars be advanced to Carpenter Wharton, who has contracted to supply the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, at 7.90 of a dollar per ration, the same to be paid him on his signing the contract, and giving security for the performance thereof.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to William Chew, for riding express to the salt-petre rock in Virginia, and bringing samples of the mineral, the sum of 84.3 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

Colonel Dyer produced an account, amounting to 1956 dollars, for medicines bought and forwarded to the camp at Cambridge.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in his favor for that sum.

The commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, laid before Congress the minutes of their proceedings.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to Wednesday next.

*Resolved*, That Monday next be assigned for taking into consideration the instructions to the delegates of Rhode-Island.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, *December 11, 1775.*

A letter from general Washington, dated 30th of November, being received, was read, together with an invoice of stores on board the Nancy transport, taken by the schooner Lee, captain Manly, also a letter from the convention of New-York, dated 7th instant.

The committee to whom that part of lord Sterling's letter, respecting the arresting and imprisoning soldiers for small sums, was referred, brought in their report.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took into consideration the instructions given to the delegates of Rhode-Island, and after debate thereon,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing these colonies with a naval armament, and report with all convenient speed.

*Resolved*, That the committee consist of a member from each colony, viz. Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Crane, Mr. Morris, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Hewes, and Mr. Gadsden.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of Thomas Jenkins, of the island of Nantucket, for license to sell his cargo of oil in this city, and to purchase a cargo of provisions and fuel for the necessary use of the inhabitants of said island, and the same was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That the vigilance and zeal of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, in preventing the said Jenkins's cargo from being sold, contrary to the resolutions of Congress, is highly approved.

*Resolved*, That it appears to this Congress, that the inhabitants of said island are at present in great distress for want of the necessaries of life.

*Resolved*, That humanity requires that some speedy measures be taken by the Congress, to enable the said inhabitants to supply themselves with necessary fuel and provisions.

*Resolved*, That the select-men of the town of Sherbourne, in Nantucket, prepare an estimate of the quantity of fuel, and provisions necessary for the use of said inhabitants, and lay it before three or more justices of the peace, for the county of Barnstable, in the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, attested by the oath or affirmation of the said select-men ; and that the said justices be empowered to grant licenses under their hands to any master or owner of vessels in the said island, to import fuel and provisions from the colonies of Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, lower counties on Delaware, or Maryland, not exceeding the quantities specified in said estimate.

*Resolved*, Whereas it appears that the said inhabitants are in immediate danger of suffering for the want of the necessaries of life, that the said captain Jenkins be permitted, under the inspection of the committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, to unload and sell his present cargo, and to purchase a cargo of fuel and provisions, provided he shall first make oath or affirmation before a magistrate, and give bond, that the same is, *bona fide*, intended for the internal consumption of the said inhabitants, and that he will use his utmost endeavors, that it shall not fall into the hands of the enemies of the United Colonies.

The committee to whom the petition of Jonathan Hudson was referred, reported their opinion in certain resolutions, which being read, were agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That so much of the said petition as prays for permission to export his cargo to any place other than the islands of Great-Britain, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay, or Man, or the West-India islands, is reasonable.

**Resolved**, That so much of the said petition as prays for farther permission is unreasonable.

**Resolved**, That the said petitioner give bond, with sufficient security, to the chairman of the committee of the town of Baltimore, under a penalty of double the value of said cargo, to export the said cargo to some place other than the islands of Great-Britain, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay, Man, and the islands of the West-Indies; and within six months after the said exportation, to produce to the said chairman a certificate of the port, to which the said cargo shall have been shipped, authenticated under the hands of two merchants of known character and reputation, residing in the same port; and that on executing such bond, the said chairman sign a permit to the said petitioner, allowing him to export the said cargo.

The Congress resuming the subject of emitting bills of credit,

**Resolved**, That the following gentlemen be appointed to sign and number the bills ordered to be emitted, viz. Samuel Morris, Frederick Kuhl, Stephen Collins, Nicholas Garrison, Matthew Clarkson, Samuel C. Morris, Thomas Barclay, Anthony Morris, jun. James Wharton, Benjamin Fuller, Joel Evans, Andrew Bunner, John Mease, Thomas Coombe, John Bayard, Robert Tuckniss, Isaac Hazlehurst, Thomas Morris, Samuel Caldwell, John Purviance, Mordecai Lewis, George Campbell, Joseph Parker, Daniel Clymer, Joseph Watkins, jun. John Shee, Phineas Bond, James Read, Robert Roberts, John Ord, Isaac Howell, William Webb, Jonathan B. Smith, Cornelius Barnes, Thomas Smith, and William Crispin.

**Resolved**, That each bill be signed, and numbered by two of the foregoing gentlemen.

A petition from Mr. Phelps, was presented and read.

**Ordered**, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The committee appointed to examine the qualifications of persons applying for offices, &c. reported Dr. Boyd as proper for the office of surgeon to the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and Mr. Patterson adjutant: Whereupon,

Dr. Boyd was unanimously elected.

A petition from David Beveridge, being laid before Congress and read,

**Resolved**, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Read, and Mr. Jefferson.

**Resolved**, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 3000 dollars, in favour of the committee of correspondence.

**Resolved**, That to-morrow be assigned to take into consideration the report of the committee of conference respecting Boston.

A letter from the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, enclosing sundry papers, was received and read.

The committee on the credit of paper currency, brought in their report.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, December 12, 1775.

**Resolved**, That the intercepted letters of Brooke Watson, and the invoice of the cargo on board the brig Nancy transport, taken by the schooner Lee, captain Manly, be published.

Sundry letters relative to a cargo of molasses, taken out of the brig Nancy; also a letter from the committee of Trenton, enclosing a parole signed by the officers there, were laid before Congress and read.

The committee appointed to prepare letters of thanks to the three general officers in the northern army, reported draughts, which being read and approved,

**Ordered**, That they be signed by the president and transmitted.

The committee on general Schuyler's letters, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the allowance for a table, made to the commander for the time being in Canada, be granted to general Montgomery, from the time he entered Canada.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will make a present of a sword of the value of one hundred dollars, to captain Henry B. Livingston, as a testimony of their sense of his service to this country, and that they will embrace the first opportunity of promoting him in the army.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 120,000 dollars be advanced to the colony of Rhode-Island, in part of their account against the United Colonies, to be paid out of the emission last ordered, the said colony to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress took into consideration the report of the committee of conference, and after debate,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take this matter into farther consideration.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, December 13, 1775.

A letter from general Washington of the 4th instant, enclosing sundry papers, being received, was read.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for fitting out a naval armament, brought in their report, which being read and debated, was agreed to as follows:

That five ships of 32 guns, five of 28 guns, three of 24 guns, making in the whole thirteen, can be fitted for the sea probably by the last of march next, viz in New-Hampshire one, in Massachusetts-Bay two, in Connecticut one, in Rhode-Island two, in New-York two, in Pennsylvania four, and in Maryland one.

That the cost of these ships, so fitted, will not be more than 66,666 2-3 dollars each, on an average, allowing two complete suits of sails for each ship, equal in the whole to 866,666 2-3 dollars.

That the materials for fitting them may be all furnished in these colonies except the articles of canvas and gun-powder; and that therefore it will be proper the Congress direct the most speedy and effectual means of importing the said articles of canvas and powder; that of the former, 7500 pieces will be wanted, and that of the latter, one hundred tons.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed with full powers to carry the said report into execution, with all possible expedition, (except what relates to canvas and powder) at the expense of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of this committee be deferred till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the secret committee to embrace the best and earliest opportunities to procure the quantity of duck and powder in the above report.

Mr. Willing, one of the secret committee, desiring to be excused on account of his living out of town, which rendered it impracticable for him to attend the committee, which usually meets in the evening:

*Resolved*, That he be excused, and another be elected in his room.

The member chosen, Mr. R. Morris.

*Resolved*, That when this Congress shall adjourn, it will be necessary to appoint a committee to sit during the adjournment, for the purpose of superintending the treasury, carrying on necessary correspondence, and such other services as shall be directed by Congress.

*Resolved*, that a committee of five be appointed to consider and prepare instructions for the committee above-mentioned.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, be authorized to give able-bodied seamen that may be willing to enter on board the ships of war of the United Colonies, eight dollars per calendar month.

Information being given that sundry persons in this city have lately sold tea,

*Resolved*, That the consideration of this matter be referred to Friday next.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, December 14, 1775.

*Resolved*, That on the meeting of Congress, half an hour every morning be employed in reading the corrected copy of the journal, till the whole is gone through.

*Resolved*, That every morning the minutes of the preceding day be read, before the Congress enter on new business.

*Resolved*, That the corrected journal, after being read, be transcribed, and sent to the press.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the appointment of a committee, to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress, for fitting out a naval armament.

*Resolved*, That the said committee consist of a member from each colony.

*Resolved*, That the choice be by ballot.

The members chosen, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Hancock, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Deane, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Crane, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Read, Mr. Chase, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Gadsden, and Mr. Houston.

Congress took into consideration general Washington's letter of the 4th : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the second resolution in the report of the committee on the general's letter, relative to transports, be committed.

*Resolved*, That lieutenant Hay, of the 7th regiment, who is now a prisoner, have liberty to return to Great-Britain, on his parole, not to take up arms against America, during the present contest between Great-Britain and these colonies.

A petition from Peter Berlon, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the said petition, with the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Smith.

The several matters to this day referred, being further postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, December 15, 1775.

Information being given to Congress, that captain Motte, who had the charge of conducting the prisoners to Reading, and other towns in Pennsylvania, having performed that service, was returned to this city,

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to distribute the prisoners, confer with captain Motte, and report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety for the colony of Pennsylvania, be requested to recommend proper persons for field officers of the four battalions to be raised in the said colony.

*Resolved*, That the said committee appoint proper persons for officers in the said battalion, under the rank of majors.

*Resolved*, That similar orders be given to the committee of safety of the

lower counties on Delaware, for recommending field officers, and appointing inferior officers, for the battalion to be raised in that colony.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. George Meade and company, merchants, of the city of Philadelphia, be permitted to export from the colony of Virginia, so much of the produce of that country, as shall be equal in value to any quantity of salt, not exceeding six thousand bushels, which they shall carry and safely deliver there to the committee of safety or their order, who are empowered to regulate the prices of the said produce and salt; and that the said George Meade and company, having given to the delegates of the said colony, in this city, bond with sufficient security, under a penalty of double the value of the said salt, that they will not carry any produce of the said colony, which they may receive in return for their salt, to the islands of Great-Britain, Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay, or Man, or to the West-India islands, and producing to the committee of safety of the said colony a certificate thereof, signed by the said delegates here, shall have a permit under the hand of the chairman of the said committee of safety, to export the said produce, the said permit being to be endorsed on, or annexed to a manifest of the cargo exported.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions for the committee who are to sit during the recess of Congress, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for the carriage of clothing to Dobb's ferry, the sum of 40 dollars.

To Philip Livingston, esq. for printing, &c. the sum of 56.2 dollars.

To sundries, for provisions, &c. furnished to several companies of riflemen the sum of 212 dollars, to be paid to Henry Wisner, esq.

To the committee of observation at Princetown, for sundry expenses, and for provisions furnished several rifle companies, the sum of 74.3 dollars, to be paid to Thomas Higgins.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee to whom the second resolution, in the report relative to transports, was recommitted, brought in their report, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being further postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *December* 16, 1775.

A letter from general Washington, of the 7th, being received, was read.

A letter from the convention of New-York, of the 9th, being laid before Congress and read,

*Ordered*, That this be referred to the committee on the credit of the continental currency.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to carry into execution the resolutions of Congress relative to a naval armament, be empowered to draw on the treasurers, from time to time, for any sums not exceeding 500,000 dollars, for carrying said resolutions into execution.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of Virginia and Maryland be a committee to prepare instructions for col. Irvine.

The committee appointed to confer with captain Motte, brought in a report which was read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Josiah Fessenden, for riding express three times to the camp at Cambridge, and once to Rhode-Island, and for expenses and horse hire, a balance amounting to 126 dollars.

To Daniel King, for 36 days' hire of a sulky for said J. Fessenden, the sum of 18 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Capt. White-Eyes, a Delaware chief, who came down with the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, being introduced to Congress the president addressed him in the following manner :

“BROTHER CAPTAIN WHITE EYES,

We are glad to see you, and we bid you welcome to this council fire, kindled for all the United Colonies.

We have heard of your friendship for your brethren, the white people, and how useful you have been in preserving peace and harmony between your nation and us, and we thank you for those services.

We are pleased that the Delawares intend to embrace Christianity. We will send you, according to your desire, a minister and a school-master to instruct you in the principles of religion, and other parts of useful knowledge.

We shall be happy in improving every opportunity that shall offer for convincing your nation, and all other nations of Indians, of our friendly disposition towards them.

Before you leave this city, we will give you some particular testimony of our regard for you.”

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee who conferred with capt. Motte,

Upon motion made, *Resolved*, That the officers be distributed in such places as are most agreeable to themselves, observing always the former resolutions of Congress on this subject, and that the officers and privates be not stationed in the same places, until the further orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with major Preston, and, with him, fix on an agent to negotiate his bills, and, with the money arising from the sale of said bills, to supply the prisoners taken at St. John's with clothing and other necessaries.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the privates who are prisoners, and have been left by captain Motte at Lancaster, be allowed to remain in that place till the further orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding 80 dollars be paid to capt. Motte, being so much advanced and paid by him for necessaries to his men in conducting the prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the distribution of the prisoners made by captain Motte be approved.

*Resolved*, That it be a standing rule of Congress, that no person be allowed to make any motion after twelve o'clock, without special leave, until the orders of the day are either determined or put off to another day.

A petition from sundry merchants of Philadelphia, was presented and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Hooper.

The committee to whom the petition of Mr. Beveridge was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, December 18, 1775.

The committee appointed to confer with major Preston, reported their proceedings, and that they had not yet come to a conclusion with him on the matter given them in charge.

*Resolved*, That major Preston have leave to go with captain Motte to Lancaster, and to remain there ten days, if he chuse to tarry so long.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the resolutions of Congress, relative to the disposal of the prisoners, and of the parole to be signed by the officers, be sent to the committee of inspection of Lancaster; and that an order issue to the said committee to take the parole of the officers there, and transmit the same to Congress.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of captain Edward Motte, for the farther sum of 80 dollars, he to be accountable for the same.

Sundry affidavits from Wyoming, relative to disturbances there, between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, being laid before the Congress and read,

After debate, *Resolved*, That the consideration of this matter be referred till to-morrow.

Letters from general Schuyler, with sundry letters and papers enclosed, being received, were read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Jefferson.

The sundry matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, December 19, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to supply the armed vessels, which are nearly ready to sail, with four tons of gunpowder, at the continental expense.

That the said committee be requested to procure and lend the said vessels as many stands of small arms as they can spare, not exceeding 400, to be repaid by the Congress either in kind or value, as the committee may desire.

That if the powder and arms that may be supplied and lent to the continent for the use of the said armed vessels, shall not be replaced on or before the first day of February next, the Congress engages that their whole influence and authority shall then be exerted immediately, to replace the same, by procuring powder and arms from some other part of the continent.

*Resolved*, That if the powder supplied and lent to the continent by the city of New-York, shall not be replaced on or before the first of February next, the Congress engages that their whole influence and authority shall then be exerted immediately to replace the same, by providing powder from some other part of the continent.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resumed the consideration of the general's letter, and the report of the committee on the second resolution in their former report, which was re-committed, and thereupon came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That all transport vessels in the same service, having on board any troops, arms, ammunition, clothing, provisions, military or naval stores of what kind soever, and all vessels to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying provisions or other necessaries to the British army or armies, or navy, that now are or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies, or any goods, wares, or merchandises, for the use of such fleet and army, shall be liable to seizure, and, with their cargoes, shall be confiscated.

The committee on the qualifications of officers applying, &c. brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee on the state of Virginia, brought in their report, which being read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A letter from general Washington being received, was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1775.

The committee of claims report, that there is due to sundry persons for necessaries furnished to the rifle companies in Virginia, the sum of 640.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Thomas Rutherford.

To Rebecca Reynolds, for horse hire, the sum of 6.9 dollars, and the same ought to be paid to Henry Wisner, esq.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

*Resolved*, That orders be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the reverend Mr. Elihu Spencer, and the reverend Mr. Alexander M'Whorter, who have undertaken to go to North-Carolina, for the sum of 120 dollars each, being three months' advance, they to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of David Beveridge, which was agreed to: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said petition is unreasonable: *Resolved*, nevertheless, that for the more speedy arming these colonies, the said David Beveridge be permitted to export a cargo of the produce of America (live stock and lumber excepted) to any part of the world, except Great Britain, the British Islands, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, on his giving bond, with sufficient security, in double the amount of the said cargo, to the chairman of the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, or to such persons as the said committee shall appoint, that he will import, into these colonies, by the first day of June next, the amount of the proceeds of the said cargo, in arms, ammunition, or salt-petre, and shall dispose of the same to the Congress, for the use of the United Colonies, at such reasonable prices, as by the committee of inspection of the place in which the vessel shall arrive, shall be ascertained and determined.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the general's letters, and thereupon came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the several vessels heretofore taken and carried into Massachusetts-Bay, by the armed vessels in the service of the United Colonies, be proceeded against by the rules of the law of nations, and libelled in the courts of admiralty erected in said colony.

The Congress, taking into consideration the dispute between the people of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, on the waters of Susquehanna, came to the following resolution:

Whereas a dispute subsists between some of the inhabitants of the colony of Connecticut, settled under the claim of the said colony, on the lands near Wyoming, on the Susquehanna river, and in the Delaware country, and the inhabitants settled under the claim of the proprietors of Pennsylvania, which dispute, it is apprehended, will, if not suspended during the present troubles in these colonies, be productive of pernicious consequences, which may be very prejudicial to the common interest of the United Colonies; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Congress, and it is accordingly recommended, that the contending parties immediately cease all hostilities, and avoid every appearance of force, until the dispute can be legally decided; that all the property taken and detained, be restored to the original owners; that no interruption be given by either party to the free passing and repassing of persons behaving themselves peaceably through the disputed territory, as well by land as water, without molestation of either persons or property; that all persons seized and detained on account of said dispute, on either side, be dismissed and permitted to go to their respective homes; and that, things being put in the same situation they were before the late unhappy contest, they continue to behave themselves peaceably on their respective possessions and improvements, until a legal decision can be had on said dispute, or this Congress shall take further order thereon; and nothing herein done shall be construed in prejudice of the claim of either party.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

THURSDAY, December 21, 1775.

*Ordered*, That an authentic copy of the resolution passed yesterday, relative to the dispute between the people of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, be transmitted to the contending parties.

The convention of Maryland having added two new members to their delegates, one of them attending, produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read, and are as follows :

**"ANNAPOLIS (MARYLAND.) IN PROVINCIAL CONVENTION, DECEMBER 9, 1775.**

**"Resolved,** That Robert Alexander and John Rogers, esqrs. together with those already appointed, be deputies to represent this province in the Continental Congress, and that the said deputies, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures, which such Congress shall deem necessary and effectual to obtain a redress of American grievances, and be authorized to represent and act for this province in any Continental Congress, which may be held before the 25th day of March next.

Extract from the minutes,

**G. DUVALL, Clerk."**

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the qualifications of officers applying, &c. and the same being debated,

**Resolved,** That forty iron pots be provided for the soldiers, while in the barracks near Philadelphia.

**Resolved,** That the commissioned officers of each company be allowed, every week, a quarter of a cord of hickory, or other wood in proportion.

**Resolved,** That there be provided for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, one hundred haversacks, a camp kettle for every six men, a tomahawk, canteen, cartouch box, knapsack, and two belts for each man.

**Resolved,** That a coat of uniform be provided for each soldier, and that what the coat cost more than the hunting shirt, which was to have been given them, be deducted from their wages.

**Resolved,** That the said battalion be paid one month's pay as soon as may be, that afterwards they receive monthly half a month's pay only, until so much is retained, as will amount to the money advanced for their fire arms, clothing, &c. after which they shall receive their full pay monthly.

**Resolved,** That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to provide arms, for the three companies which are ordered to march; and also to provide the articles ordered above for the use of the said battalion, and likewise to furnish the said battalion with drums, colors and fifes.

Dr. James Holmes was chosen surgeon to colonel Maxwell's regiment.

Matthias Halsted was elected quarter-master to lord Sterling's regiment.

**Resolved,** That the committee on the qualifications of officers, &c. be directed to procure proper medicine-chests for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania and New-Jersey.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration that part of the report of the committee of conference, relative to an attack on Boston, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a determination thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

**Resolved,** That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the report of the committee of conference, relative to the attack on Boston.

**Resolved,** That Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Lee, and Mr. S. Adams, be a committee to consider what allowance should be made to the officers who are prisoners, for their support.

**Resolved,** That Mr. Regonville, a Canadian prisoner at Trenton, be permitted to come to Philadelphia, and there wait the orders of Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *December 22, 1775.*

A letter from general Schuyler of the 14th: also a letter from lord Sterling of the same date, and a letter from captain Livingston, being received, were read.

The committee appointed to fit out armed vessels, laid before Congress a list of the officers by them appointed, agreeable to the powers to them given by Congress, viz.

Ezek Hopkins, esq. commander in chief of the fleet.

Dudley Saltonstall, captain of the Alfred.

Abraham Whipple, captain of the Columbus.

Nicholas Biddle, captain of the Andrew Doria.

John Burrows Hopkins, captain of the Cabot.

First lieutenants. John Paul Jones, Rhodes Arnold, — Stansbury, Hersted Hacker, Jonathan Pitcher.

Second lieutenants. Benjamin Seabury, Joseph Olney, Elisha Warner, Thomas Weaver, — M'Dougall.

Third lieutenants. John Fanning, Ezekiel Burroughs, Daniel Vaughan.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the commander in chief of the fleet be 125 dollars per calendar month.

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted to the above officers agreeable to their rank in the above appointment.

*Resolved*, That the committee for fitting out armed vessels, issue warrants to all officers employed in the fleet under the rank of third lieutenants.

*Resolved*, That the said committee be directed (as a secret committee) to give such instructions to the commander of the fleet, touching the operations of the ships under his command, as shall appear to the said committee most conducive to the defence of the United Colonies, and to the distress of the enemy's naval forces and vessels bringing supplies to their fleets and armies, and lay such instructions before the Congress when called for.

*Resolved*, That the said committee be directed to consider how the shares of the prizes allotted to the captors ought to be divided between the officers and men, and report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Indians lately arrived, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. S. Adams.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the report of the committee of conference relative to an attack on Boston, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, and had come to a resolution thereon, which he was ready to report. The report of the committee being read, was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That if general Washington and his council of war should be of opinion, that a successful attack may be made on the troops in Boston, he do it in any manner he may think expedient, notwithstanding the town and property in it may thereby be destroyed.

*Resolved*, That the quarter-master general have the rank of a colonel in the army of the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Benjamin Harrison, esq. for his expenses in his late journey to Maryland, the sum of 72.4 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Ordered*, That the examination of Connolly and the others taken with him, also the papers found in the said Connolly's possession, be printed.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hooper, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Deane, be a committee to examine the journals, and lay before Congress a

list of the matters therein that are unfinished, and which are proper to be acted upon.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, December 23, 1775.**

A letter from lord Sterling of the 19th, being received, was read.

A petition from Seth Paddock, master of the sloop Mayflower, and Sylvanus Coffin, master of the schooner Dolly, of the island of Nantucket, was presented to Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the said petition be referred to a committee of three, and that it be an instruction to said committee, to enquire what quantity of provisions and fuel is necessary for the annual internal consumption of the inhabitants of said island of Nantucket, and what quantity has been exported from the different ports of the United Colonies, during the present month of December.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Sherman.

One of the committee appointed to repair to Ticonderoga, and confer with general Schuyler, being returned, laid before Congress a report of their proceedings, which was read.

The committee of claims reported that there is due,

To Ephraim Blaine, for expenses incurred by the treaty with the Western Indians, and paid by him, the sum of £ 533 19 4, and that there is due to Ephraim Steel, for sundries furnished two rifle companies, the sum of £ 14 8, which ought to be paid to the said Blaine ; and also 4s 8, due to John M'Kee, of which two last sums there ought to be charged to the continent, the sum of £5=13.3 dollars, for the two cwt. lead, and the remainder to the companies respectively, the whole being 1462.9 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the application from the convention of the colony of New-York, for the loan of £ 45,000 was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to as follows :

Notwithstanding it appears to this committee that the credit of the colony of New-York is unquestionable, and their application for the loan of £45,000 was suggested by disinterested principles, yet, that it would not be advisable, in the opinion of this committee, for the Congress to make the loan proposed.

The committee appointed to confer with the Indians, made report of their proceedings, which was read.

Whereas the colony of Connecticut has, by a certain act of their assembly, resolved that no further settlements be made on the lands disputed between them and Pennsylvania, without license from the said assembly.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the colony of Connecticut not to introduce any settlers on the said lands till the further order of this Congress, until the said dispute shall be settled.

The committee on the state of the treasury brought in a report, which being read, and in part debated,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The committee appointed to consider what articles are necessary for the army, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the petition of Peter Berton was referred, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to, and is as follows :

That, after mature consideration had thereon, they are of opinion that it is not advisable or proper for the Congress to grant the prayer of the said petition.

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Pennsylvania call on the treasurers, and enquire of them what sum of hard money they have collected, and report to Congress.

**Resolved**, That the committee appointed to confer with the Indians conclude their conference with them by returning them a friendly answer, and making them a small present.

The committee appointed to examine the journal, &c. laid before Congress a list of the several matters therein, which are yet unfinished.

**Ordered**, That the several committees to whom any matters are referred, conclude their business with all convenient despatch, and report to Congress.

**Ordered**, That the second paragraph in general Schuyler's letter, relative to the measures taken by the ministerial agents, to engage the Indians in a war with these colonies, be published.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Tuesday next.

**TUESDAY, December 26, 1775.**

Two letters from general Washington, of the 14th and 16th, with one enclosed from Dr. Morgan, a letter from governor Trumbull of the 20th, with a resolution of the assembly of the colony of Connecticut, also a letter from sundry masters of vessels, dated Guadaloupe, September 19, being received, were read.

The deputy muster-master general sent to Congress the muster rolls of the Pennsylvania battalion by him mustered.

**Resolved**, That the deputy muster-master be directed to repair to New-Jersey, and muster the battalions raised in that colony, and make return to Congress.

**Resolved**, That Friday next be assigned for taking into consideration the propriety of opening the ports of the United Colonies after the 1st day of March next.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the treasury, and thereupon came to the following resolutions :

Whereas an estimate hath lately been formed of the public expense already arisen, and which may accrue in the defence of America, to the 10th day of June next, in pursuance whereof this Congress, on the 29th of November, resolved that a farther sum of three millions of dollars be emitted in bills of credit.

**Resolved**, That the thirteen United Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the bills of credit so directed to be emitted.

That each colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of said bills, in such manner as may be most effectual, and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and equal mode of levying taxes in each colony.

That the proportion or quota of each respective colony be determined according to the number of inhabitants, of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes in each colony.

That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, or councils, or committees of safety of the respective colonies, to ascertain, by the most impartial and effectual means in their power, the number of inhabitants in each respective colony, taking care that the lists be authenticated by the oaths of the several persons who shall be entrusted with this service ; and that the said assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, do respectively lay before this Congress a return of the number of inhabitants of their respective colonies, as soon as the same shall be procured.

That each colony pay its respective quota in four equal payments ; the first to be made on or before the last day of November, 1783 ; the second, on or before the last day of November, 1784 ; the third, on or before the last day of November, 1785 ; and the fourth or last, on or before the last day of November, 1786 ; and that, for this end, the several assemblies or conventions provide for laying and levying taxes in their respective colonies, towards sinking the continental bills : that the said bills be received by the collectors in payment of such

taxes, and be by the collectors paid into the hands of the provincial treasurers, with all such other moneys as they may receive in lieu of the continental bills; which other moneys the provincial treasurers shall endeavor to get exchanged for continental bills; and where that cannot be done, shall send to the continental treasurers the deficiency in silver and gold, with the bills, making up the quota to be sunk in that year; taking care to cut, by a circular punch of an inch diameter, an hole in such bills, and to cross the same, thereby to render them unpassable, though the sum or value is to remain fairly legible; and the continental treasurers, as fast as they receive the said quotas, shall, with the assistance of a committee of five persons, to be appointed by the Congress, if sitting, or by the assembly or convention of the province of Pennsylvania, examine and count the continental bills, and, in the presence of the said committee, burn and destroy them; and the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies of quotas, they shall retain in their hands, until demanded in redemption of continental bills, that may be brought to them for that purpose, which bills, so redeemed, they shall also burn and destroy in the presence of the said committee; and the treasurers, whenever they have silver and gold in their hands for the redemption of continental bills, shall advertise the same, signifying that they are ready to give gold or silver for such bills, to all persons requiring it in exchange.

The reports of the committees on general Schuyler's letters, and the report of the committee sent to Ticonderoga, being read,

*Resolved*, That the same be recommitted to Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Langdon.

The report of the committee, to whom was referred a paragraph of lord Sterling's letter to the Congress, complaining that several of his recruits had been arrested and imprisoned for trifling debts, being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas there is reason to believe, that divers persons, either from inattention to the public good, or with design to retard the recruiting service, have arrested and imprisoned, for very trifling debts, many soldiers, who had engaged to risque their lives in defence of the liberties of America; and, as it has always been found necessary, in time of war, to regulate and restrain a practice of such pernicious tendency, and in such cases, to abate the rigour of the law:

*Resolved*, therefore, That it be recommended to the several legislatures in these colonies, whether assemblies or conventions, to pass acts or ordinances, prohibiting the arrests of continental soldiers for small debts; and in order that the same rule may pervade all the colonies, that no soldier be arrested at the suit of any of his creditors, unless the said creditor make oath, that the said soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of thirty-five dollars over and above all discounts; and that the estate of no such soldier be liable to attachment at the suit of, or for the benefit of all his creditors, unless their debts in the whole, on being ascertained by their oaths, shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

*Resolved*, That the several letters received from lord Sterling, be referred to a committee of three, who are directed to report an answer.

The members chosen, Mr. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston and Mr. Jay.

*Resolved*, That the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, be supplied with gun-brushes, prickers, double-worms, screw-drivers, and oil; and that it be recommended to the committee of safety of the said colony to provide the same.

Whereas this Congress, by a resolution passed the 15th day of July last, did direct that every vessel importing into these colonies, gun-powder, salt-petre, sulphur, and other military stores therein specified, within nine months from the date thereof, should be permitted to load and export the produce of

these colonies, to the value of such powder and stores aforesaid, the non-exportation agreement notwithstanding, by permits from the committees of the several colonies; to the end, therefore, that this Congress may be the better informed of the quantity of military stores, which are or shall be so imported, and of the produce exported in consequence of the resolution aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all committees by whom any permits, under the said resolution, have been or may be granted, to transmit to this Congress, from time to time, a true account of the military stores, &c. imported, and of the produce exported, with the price and value of both.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolution be published.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to lieutenant-col. Irvine brought in a draught, which being read, was agreed to.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, December 27, 1775.

A letter of the 21st from the committee of inspection of the town of Lancaster, enclosing the paroles of the officers there, being received, was read.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with captain Motte, and consult with him on the best method of providing the guard under his command with provisions on their return home.

The members chosen, Mr. Cushing, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lynch.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of Virginia, and after debate, the farther consideration thereof, at the request of a colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to confer with captain Motte, brought in their report, which being read, was agreed to as follows:

That they find some of said guard have upwards of 240 miles to march: that they will be content with eight dollars each, and bear their own expenses to their respective homes, or to be supplied by a commissary, or any other way as the Congress shall judge best.

It is the opinion of the committee, that the said guard receive a sum not exceeding eight dollars each, in lieu of all other provision for their return: therefore,

*Resolved*, That captain Motte be empowered to pay to his guard for the purpose aforesaid, a sum not exceeding eight dollars to any one, according to their respective distances, and that he return to the committee of claims, a list of his men, and an account of the payments to them made.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### THURSDAY, December 28, 1775.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Sacheverel Wood, the sum of 91.9 dollars, for support of 17 men to the 21st December, who are confined in the gaol of Philadelphia, by order of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of G. Wythe, esq. one of the committee appointed to confer with the Indians, for the sum of 13 1-3 dollars, as a present to said Indians.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the sum of 8000 dollars, for the use of the battalion raised in said colony, the said committee to be accountable for the same.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of Virginia; and thereupon came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That six battalions are necessary to be immediately raised in Virginia, and that they be raised accordingly, upon the same terms, and paid

as the continental forces in the camp at Cambridge, unless the convention of that colony can raise them on better terms.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the secret committee, which being in part agreed to,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of New York, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Deane, Mr. Wythe, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Jay.

The committee to whom the petition of captains Paddock and Coffin was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, December 29, 1775.

A petition of captain Sellick was presented to Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the said petition, with the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. F. Lee.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania, being read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Information being given to Congress of a quantity of arms and ammunition which may be procured,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire farther into this matter.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Lynch.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration, the matter to them referred, and had come to certain resolutions, which he was ready to report.

The report of the committee being read, the Congress took the same into consideration, and, thereupon, came to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the colonies of Virginia, Maryland, and North-Carolina, be permitted to export produce from their respective colonies, to any part of the world, except Great-Britain, Ireland, the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, Aldernay and Man, and the British West-India islands, and in return to import so much salt from any part of the world, not prohibited by the association, as the conventions or councils of safety of the two former colonies, and the provincial council of the other shall judge necessary, for the use of the inhabitants thereof, now suffering great distress by the scarcity of that necessary article, proper caution being taken to prevent any abuse of this indulgence, by exceeding in the quantities exported or imported, and that no provisions, staves, or naval stores be exported, if other commodities may answer the purpose.

*Resolved*, That as the importation of any universally necessary commodity, and the exportation of our produce, to purchase the same, must give a proportionably greater opportunity to our enemies of making depredations on the property of the inhabitants of these colonies, and of occasionally distressing them by intercepting such commodities, it is earnestly recommended to the several assemblies or conventions immediately to promote, by sufficient public encouragements, the making salt in their respective colonies.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolution be immediately published.

The committee on Indian trade, brought in their report.

The committee on lord Sterling's letters, also brought in their report.

A letter of the 16th, from the committee of correspondence, in Virginia, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The order of the day being renewed, and the several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, December 30, 1775.

Two letters from general Washington, of the 19th and 21st, enclosing a copy of a letter to general Howe, and accompanied with a number of intercepted letters, being received and read,

*Resolved*, That the letters from the general, and the intercepted letters, be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Deane, and Mr. S. Adams.

A letter from general Schuyler of the 21st, being received, was read.

Another letter from general Washington, dated 14th December, brought by two strangers, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That this be referred to the secret committee, who are directed to confer with the bearers, and to pursue such measures as they may think proper for the interest of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That major Preston have leave to go to Amboy to visit his uncle who lives there, and to remain in that place one week, and then return to Philadelphia, and wait the orders of Congress.

The committee appointed to enquire into the grounds of the information, respecting a quantity of arms and ammunition being to be procured, report, that they have examined into the same, and have received intelligence that a quantity of arms and ammunition, and other articles are concealed in Tryon county, in which also there are several tories armed and enlisted in the enemy's service : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said committee be directed to communicate this intelligence to general Schuyler, and in the name of the Congress, desire him to take the most speedy and effectual measures for securing the said arms and military stores, and for disarming the said tories, and apprehending their chiefs.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the said committee, for the sum of forty dollars, for expediting the business to them committed.

*Ordered*, That the delegates of Pennsylvania do immediately count the silver and gold in the treasury, and forward the same, with all convenient speed, under a guard of five men, to general Schuyler; and that the persons to be sent by the foregoing committee, accompany said guard.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be empowered to employ a broker to collect silver and gold, in exchange for continental bills of credit.

The committee on captain Sellick's petition, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the contents of the intercepted letters this day read, and the steps which Congress may take in consequence of the intelligence thereby given, be kept secret until further orders, excepting only that the delegates of Virginia and South-Carolina have leave to send to their conventions, extracts of such parts of the said letters, as they may think necessary for the welfare of their colonies.

The committee on the petition of sundry merchants in Philadelphia, also brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, January 1, 1776.

A letter from governor Trumbull, dated the 23d of December, being received, was read.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on captain Sellick's petition, which was agreed to, as follows :

That they have maturely considered the petition, and have examined captain Simeon Sellick particularly thereon, and are of opinion, that the petitioner be allowed, as a compensation for his expenses, trouble, and risk in taking the goods at Turtlebay, for the use of the United Colonies, the sum of 333 dollars and one-third, and that the committee of Fairfield be directed to take into their possession, for the use of the said colonies, all the goods taken by captain Sellick, which are not already delivered by him, and to forward the two boxes of salt-petre now in capt. Sellick's custody, to the powder mill in Ulster county, to be manufactured into gun-powder for the continental service.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee on lord Sterling's letters, after debate thereon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommitted.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an adjutant for the battalion raised in Pennsylvania, and the ballots being taken and examined,

John Patterson was elected.

*Resolved*, That the president sign commissions to the field officers appointed by the provincial Congress of North-Carolina, to command the two battalions directed to be raised in that colony by this Congress, and that such commissions bear like date with those issued to the said officers by the said provincial Congress of North-Carolina.

*Resolved*, That, in case of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a colonel or inferior officer, the provincial convention of North-Carolina, or, in their recess, the provincial council, appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until a commission shall issue from this Congress; and that they return to this Congress a list of the names of the person or persons so appointed.

The delegates of New-York having received new powers from their convention, laid the same before Congress, as follows :

“ IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, *New-York, December 21, 1775.*

“ *Resolved*, That the present delegates of this colony, in Continental Congress, be requested to make such an arrangement among themselves, as that five of them only continue at Congress, and represent this colony at any one time; and that, in case of the necessary absence of any one or two of the delegates so attending, according to such arrangement, that three or four of them be a quorum, and enabled to represent the colony during such absence.

“ A true copy from the minutes.

“ JOHN M'KESSON, *Secretary.*”

The committee to whom the letters from general Washington, and the intercepted letters, were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the president of the provincial council of North-Carolina and of Georgia, be requested to procure committees of their several bodies to repair immediately to Charleston, and there to confer with a committee of the council of safety of South-Carolina, upon weighty and important matters relative to the defence and security of these colonies.

*Resolved*, That it appears the British ministry and their agents have meditated and are preparing to make attacks upon Charleston, in South-Carolina, and several places in Virginia, and probably in North Carolina; and that it be recommended to the conventions or committees of safety of the two former colonies, and to the provincial council of the other, by all possible means, to make a vigorous defence and opposition; and that it be farther recommended to the committee of safety of Virginia, and the provincial council of North-Carolina, to meet together and confer and conclude upon such operations as they may think most for their mutual interest.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, January 2, 1776.**

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To James Chambers the sum of 25.8 dollars for his expenses from Cambridge.

To Judah Alden 50 dollars, advanced on account of expenses in attending the French gentlemen.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be directed to have brigadier general Prescott, lately made prisoner by the continental forces in Canada, taken into custody, and safely and securely kept until the further orders of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the above be sent immediately to general Schuyler, and that the general be informed by letter of the reasons which induced the Congress to give such orders.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Egbert Dumond, on account of expenses in bringing the prisoners, taken at St. John's, from Kingston, in New-York government, to Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, the sum of 2326.2 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of captains Paddock and Coffin, and after debate,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said petition be not granted.

The committee on the state of New-York brought in their report, which was read.

The report of captain Motte, with regard to the disposition of the officers taken prisoners at St. John's, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee, to whom the report on lord Sterling's letters was recommit-  
ted, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the president acquaint his lordship, that the Congress has provided against the inconvenience of vexatious arrests of the men inlisting in the continental service.

*Resolved*, That the barracks in the colony of New-Jersey be prepared for the reception of such of the battalions as may not be in readiness to proceed to New-York, and that the ministerial troops or prisoners at present occupying them, be accommodated in the said colony, in such manner, as the committee of safety for said colony, shall think most prudent and convenient.

That Mr. Lowry, the commissary, be directed to supply the said battalions with stockings, and that the delegates for the colony of New-Jersey, transmit to lord Sterling six dozen printed copies of the articles of war.

That considering not only the defenceless condition of the colony of New-Jersey, for want of ammunition in case of an hostile invasion of that colony, but the evident want of the assistance of those battalions for the defence of New-York, where an attack of the enemy is most probably to be apprehended, a requisition be made by the Congress to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, of four hundred weight of powder for the said battalions.

That the same fire-wood, camp equipage, and barrack utensils be allowed to each of the New-Jersey battalions as are allowed to the battalion raised in Pennsylvania.

That the hundred stand of arms supplied by the colony of New-York for the New-Jersey battalions, be paid for by the convention of New-Jersey ; and that in order to enable the said convention to make such payment, as well as to furnish such of the men belonging to the said battalions, as are yet unprovided with arms, the farther sum of 1000 dollars be advanced to the said convention ; and that the price of the arms be deducted out of the wages of the privates belonging to the said battalions. <sup>n</sup>

That lord Sterling be directed to seize and secure all the ammunition and warlike stores belonging to the enemy, which now are or hereafter may be imported into the colony of New-Jersey, and keep them till he shall receive the

orders of Congress respecting them: And further, that he do, from time to time, give aid and protection to all the friends of America, who may be employed in importing into the said colony, ammunition, or other commodities not prohibited by the association and resolves of this Congress.

Whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that divers honest and well-meaning, but uninformed people in these colonies, have, by the art and address of ministerial agents, been deceived and drawn into erroneous opinions respecting the American cause, and the probable issue of the present contest:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the different committees, and other friends to American liberty, in the said colonies, to treat all such persons with kindness and attention; to consider them as the inhabitants of a country determined to be free, and to view their errors as proceeding rather from want of information than want of virtue or public spirit; to explain to them the origin, nature and extent of the present controversy; to acquaint them with the fate of the numerous petitions presented to his majesty, as well by assemblies as Congresses, for reconciliation and redress of grievances: and that the last from this Congress, humbly requesting the single favor of being heard, like all the others, has proved unsuccessful; to unfold to them the various arts of administration to ensnare and enslave us, and the manner in which we have been cruelly driven to defend, by arms, those very rights, liberties and estates, which we and our forefathers had so long enjoyed unmolested in the reigns of his present majesty's predecessors. And it is hereby recommended to all conventions and assemblies in these colonies, liberally to distribute among the people, the proceedings of this and the former Congress, the late speeches of the great patriots in both houses of parliament relative to American grievances, and such other pamphlets and papers as tend to elucidate the merits of the American cause, the Congress being fully persuaded that the more our right to the enjoyment of our ancient liberties and privileges is examined, the more just and necessary our present opposition to ministerial tyranny will appear.

And, with respect to all such unworthy Americans, as, regardless of their duty to their Creator, their country and their posterity, have taken part with our oppressors, and, influenced by the hope or possession of ignominious rewards, strive to recommend themselves to the bounty of administration, by misrepresenting and traducing the conduct and principles of the friends of American liberty, and opposing every measure formed for its preservation and security,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the different assemblies, conventions and committees or councils of safety in the United Colonies, by the most speedy and effectual measures, to frustrate the mischievous machinations, and restrain the wicked practices of these men: And it is the opinion of this Congress, that they ought to be disarmed, and the more dangerous among them, either kept in safe custody, or bound with sufficient sureties to their good behaviour.

And, in order that the said assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety, may be enabled, with greater ease and facility to carry this resolution into execution,

*Resolved*, That they be authorized to call to their aid, whatever continental troops, stationed in or near their respective colonies, may be conveniently spared from their more immediate duty; and the commanding officers of such troops, are hereby directed to afford the said assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety, all such assistance in executing this resolution, as they may require, and which, consistent with the good of the service, may be supplied.

*Resolved*, That all detachments of continental troops, which may be ordered on the business in the foregoing resolution mentioned, be, while so employed, under the direction and controul of the assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety aforesaid.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to all the United Colonies, to aid each other (on request from their respective assemblies, conventions, committees, or councils of safety and county committees) on every emergency, and to cultivate, cherish and increase the present happy and necessary union, by a continual interchange of mutual good offices.

And whereas the execrable barbarity, with which this unhappy war has been conducted on the part of our enemies, such as burning our defenceless towns and villages, exposing their inhabitants, without regard to sex or age, to all the miseries which loss of property, the rigour of the season, and inhuman devastation can inflict, exciting domestic insurrections and murders, bribing savages to desolate our frontiers, and casting such of us as the fortune of war has put in their power, into gaols, there to languish in irons and in want, compelling the inhabitants of Boston, in violation of the treaty, to remain confined within the town, exposed to the insolence of the soldiery, and other enormities, at the mention of which decency and humanity will ever blush, may justly provoke the inhabitants of these colonies to retaliate.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to them, to continue mindful that humanity ought to distinguish the brave, that cruelty should find no admission among a free people, and to take care that no page in the annals of America be stained by a recital of any action which justice or Christianity may condemn, and to rest assured that whenever retaliation may be necessary or tend to their security, this Congress will undertake the disagreeable task.

**Resolved**, That the assemblies, conventions, or committees, or councils of safety, be requested forthwith to transmit to this Congress, copies of all the petitions, memorials, and remonstrances, which have been, by the respective colonies, presented to the throne, or either house of parliament, since the year 1762, and that they also inform the Congress, whether any and what answers were given to them.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Bartlett be appointed one of the committee of claims, in the room of Mr. Langdon, and Mr. S. Adams in the room of Mr. Cushing, who have leave of absence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *January 3*, 1776.

A letter from general Washington, dated the 25th of December, with sundry papers enclosed, was read.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania, having recommended sundry gentlemen to be field officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in said colony, the Congress proceeded to the election of colonels, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen:

Arthur St. Clair, esq. John Shee, esq. Anthony Wayne, esq. Robert Magaw, esq.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the secret committee, came to the following resolutions:

**Resolved**, That the following goods and stores ought to be imported as soon as possible, for the use of the United Colonies, viz.

60,000 striped blankets.

120,000 yards of 6-4 cloths, brown and blue, from 3s. to 6s. ster.

10,000 yards of do. different colours, for facings, at 4s.

3,000 pieces of duffels, or some such cloth.

100 m. sorted needles.

50 m. do. none fine.

10 m. do. for sail cloth.

3,000 pieces of raven's duck.

3,000 pieces ticklenburgs.

1,500 pieces oznaburgs.

1,000 pieces vitrey.

4,000 pieces Hamburg dowlas.

20,000 stand of arms.

300 tons of lead.

1,000,000 of flints.

1,500 boxes of tin, and wire properly sorted for it.

Medicines, surgeons' instruments, lint and bandages, in the whole, to the amount of £ 2,000 sterling.

500 sheets of copper of different sorts.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered and directed to pursue the most effectual measures for importing the foregoing articles.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of this report be postponed.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To captain Edward Motte, for expenses, &c. in conducting the prisoners taken at St. John's, from Kingston, in the colony of New-York, to Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, a balance of 367.7 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for carriage of clothing and medicines to Dobb's ferry and to Cambridge, 222.6 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee on the state of New-York, brought in a farther report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows :

Whereas a majority of the inhabitants of Queen's county, in the colony of New-York, being incapable of resolving to live and die freemen, and being more disposed to quit their liberties than part with the little proportion of their property necessary to defend them, have deserted the American cause, by refusing to send deputies as usual to the convention of that colony ; and avowing by a public declaration, an unmanly design of remaining inactive spectators of the present contest, vainly flattering themselves, perhaps, that should Providence declare for our enemies, they may purchase their mercy and favor at an easy rate ; and, on the other hand, if the war should terminate in favor of America, that then they may enjoy, without expense of blood or treasure, all the blessings resulting from that liberty, which they, in the day of trial, had abandoned, and in defence of which, many of their more virtuous neighbors and countrymen had nobly died : and although the want of public spirit, observable in these men, rather excites pity than alarm, there being little danger to apprehend either from their prowess or example, yet it being reasonable, that those who refuse to defend their country, should be excluded from its protection, and prevented from doing it injury :

*Resolved*, That all such persons in Queen's county, aforesaid, as voted against sending deputies to the present convention of New-York, and named in a list of delinquents in Queen's county, published by the convention of New-York, be put out of the protection of the United Colonies, and that all trade and intercourse with them cease ; that none of the inhabitants of that county be permitted to travel or abide in any part of these United Colonies, out of their said county, without a certificate from the convention or committee of safety of the colony of New-York, setting forth, that such inhabitant is a friend to the American cause, and not of the number of those who voted against sending deputies to the said convention ; and that such of the said inhabitants as shall be found out of the said county, without such certificate, be apprehended and imprisoned three months.

*Resolved*, That no attorney or lawyer ought to commence, prosecute, or defend any action at law, of any kind, for any of the said inhabitants of Queen's county, who voted against sending deputies to the convention, as aforesaid ; and such attorney or lawyer as shall contravene this resolution, are enemies to the American cause, and ought to be treated accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the convention or committee of safety of the colony of New-York be requested to continue publishing, for a month, in all their gazettes or

newspapers, the names of all such of the inhabitants of Queen's county, as voted against sending deputies; and to give certificates, in the manner before recommended, to such others of the said inhabitants, as are friends to American liberty.

And it is recommended to all conventions, committees of safety, and others, to be diligent in executing the above resolutions.

*Resolved*, That colonel Nathaniel Heard, of Woodbridge, in the colony of New-Jersey, taking with him five or six hundred minute-men, under discreet officers, do march to the western part of Queen's county, and that colonel Waterbury of Stanford, in the colony of Connecticut, with the like number of minute-men, march to the eastern side of said county; that they confer together, and endeavor to enter the said county on one day; that they proceed to disarm every person in the said county, who voted against sending deputies to the said convention, and cause them to deliver up their arms and ammunition on oath, and that they take and confine in safe custody, till further orders, all such as refuse compliance.

That they apprehend and secure, till further orders, the persons named as principal men among the disaffected in the said county, in a summons for their appearance before the convention of New-York, issued the 12th of December last, viz.

Of Jamaica township, captain Benjamin Whitehead, Charles Arden, Joseph French, esq. Johannes Polhemus.

Newtown, Nathaniel Moor, John Moor, sen. Samuel Hallet, John Moor, jun. William Weyman, John Shoals, Jeromus Rapalje.

Flushing, John Willet.

Hamstead, Justice Gilbert Van Wyck, Daniel Kissam, esq. of Cowneck, captain Jacob Mott, Thomas Cornhill, of Rockaway, Gabriel G. Ludlow, Richard Hewlet, captain Charles Hicks, Dr. Samuel Martin, Justice Samuel Clowes.

Oyster-Bay, Justice Thomas Smith, of Hog-island, Justice John Hewlet, captain George Weeks, Dr. David Brooks, Justice John Townsend.

And all such other persons who shall be found in arms, or who shall oppose the carrying the above resolutions into effect, as the said colonel Heard or colonel Waterbury may think prudent to detain.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the said colonel Heard and colonel Waterbury, to execute the business entrusted to them by the foregoing resolutions, with all possible despatch, secrecy, order, and humanity.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 500 dollars be forthwith transmitted, with certified copies of these resolutions, to each of them, the said colonel Heard and colonel Waterbury, and that they, on their return, report to this Congress, a true state of their expenditure and proceedings.

A letter from the committee of Frederick, in Maryland, brought by the officer who had the charge of bringing down Connolly and his associates, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to carry into execution the resolution of Congress for confining said Connolly, and his associates, in the gaol of Philadelphia, and that they take their examination.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 4, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an additional battalion be raised in the county of Cumberland, in the colony of Pennsylvania, to consist of the same number of men and officers, and to have the same pay and allowance, as the others raised in said colony.

*Resolved*, That one company of each of the five battalions last ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, consist of expert riflemen.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to see the foregoing resolutions carried into execution.

*Resolved*, That, in all elections of officers by Congress, where more than one are elected on the same day, to commands of the same rank, they shall take rank of each other according to their election, and the entry of their names in the minutes, and their commissions shall be numbered to shew their priority.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of other field officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen :

Lieutenant-colonels: Lambert Cadwallader, William Allen, jun. Francis Johnson, Joseph Penrose, esqrs.

Majors: Joseph Wood, George Nagle, Henry Bicker, Nicholas Hausicker, esqrs.

The committee of claims report, that there is due,

To James Whitehead, for provisions for the prisoners taken on board the Rebecca and Mary, the sum of 64 dollars.

To the committee of New-Brunswick, per account rendered, the sum of 214.9 dollars, to be paid to William Livingston, esq. and by him forwarded to the said committee.

To Furman and Hunt, of Trenton, for provisions, horse hire, &c. the sum of 68.2 dollars,

To the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, for 187,046 flints, by them purchased, agreeable to the order of Congress, the sum of 737 dollars.

To sundry persons, per list, for signing the continental bills of credit, the sum of 1165.7 dollars, and that an order be given to the treasurers for the payment of the same, agreeable to the said list.

To the committee of Frederick-Town, Maryland, for expenses incurred by Connolly, Cameron and Smith, during their confinement, the sum of 74 dollars, and that the same be paid to the delegates of Maryland.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid accordingly.

*Resolved*, That a commissary be appointed to provide the three companies ordered to Northampton, in Virginia, with rations while on their march, and during their stay in that country.

That the appointment of said commissary be deferred till to-morrow.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of New-York: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the same be postponed till to-morrow, and that the delegates of New-York be desired to request the attendance of the gentlemen sent to Congress by the convention of their colony.

*Resolved*, That major Preston have liberty to chuse the place of his residence, consistent with former resolutions of Congress, and that the president take his parole.

The committee appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made to officers who are prisoners, brought in their report:

*Ordered*, That the same be taken into consideration on Saturday next.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, January 5, 1776.

There being a vacancy in the first of the Pennsylvania battalions, by the promotion of captain Allen, the Congress proceeded to the election of a person to supply said vacancy, and the ballots being taken, Benjamin Davis, oldest lieutenant in said battalion, was elected.

*Resolved*, That the sum of ten thousand dollars, be struck, for the purpose of exchanging ragged and torn bills of the continental currency; that the bills, making this sum, be of the same denominations, printed under the inspection of the same persons, and signed and numbered by the same signers, as the last emission, and that they be lodged in the treasury, to be applied to the sole purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That all committees, and others, who have had public money put into their hands, lay upon the table, an account of the expenditure of the same.

The committee appointed to consider the letter of general Washington, dated the 18th of December, and the enclosed papers, brought in a report upon that part, which relates to James Lovell, who has long been, and still is, detained a close prisoner in Boston, by order of general Howe, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, and is as follows:

That it appears to your committee, that the said Mr. Lovell hath, for years past, been an able advocate for the liberties of America and mankind; that by his letter to general Washington, which is a part of said enclosed papers, he exhibits so striking an instance of disinterested patriotism, as strongly recommends him to the particular notice of this continent.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mr. James Lovell, an inhabitant of Boston, now held a close prisoner there, by order of general Howe, has discovered, under the severest trials, the warmest attachment to public liberty, an inflexible fidelity to his country; that by his late letter to general Washington, he has given the strongest evidence of disinterested public affection, in refusing to listen to terms offered for his relief, till he could be informed by his countrymen that they were compatible with their safety and honor.

*Resolved*, That it is deeply to be regretted that a British general can be found degenerate enough so ignominiously and cruelly to treat a citizen, who is so eminently virtuous:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to general Washington to make an offer of governor Skene in exchange for the said Mr. Lovell and his family.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be desired to embrace the first opportunity which may offer, of giving some office to Mr. Lovell equal to his abilities, and which the public service may require.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the general as speedily as possible.

*Resolved*, That the president write to general Washington, and desire him to inform Congress, what rank the aids-de-camp of the general officer should have in the army of the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due to Adam Fisher, for expenses attending his conducting Connolly and Cameron from Frederick, in Maryland, to Philadelphia, and his charges back again for himself and the men, the sum of 156 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Congress having conferred with the gentlemen sent by the convention of New-York, resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of that colony, and the same was agreed to:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That no farther fortifications be erected at Martler's Rock, on Hudson's river, and that a point of land at Puplopen's kill, on the said river, be without delay effectually fortified.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention, or in their recess, to the committee of safety, of New-York, to carry into execution the above resolution.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of New-Jersey and Connecticut be directed to take the necessary steps for carrying into execution the resolutions of Congress passed on Wednesday last, respecting the inhabitants of Queen's county.

A memorial from the inhabitants of the town of Newport was presented to Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Paine be added to the committee on general Schuyler's letters.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, January 6, 1776.**

Information being given to Congress, that a quantity of powder was arrived at Great-Egg Harbour; of which a part was addressed to Congress by Mr. Parsons, a part consigned to Mr. Webster, of Philadelphia, and a part to another gentleman in said city:

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to get the powder addressed to Congress, removed to Philadelphia, and to purchase, for the use of the United Colonies, the other parcels of powder.

*Resolved*, That one ton of the powder arrived, be delivered to the committee for fitting out armed vessels, for the use of said armed vessels.

A letter from the committee of Lancaster, dated the 3d of January, was received, and read:

Also, a letter from an officer in Lisbon, dated the 23d of October last:

*Resolved*, That these letters, as well as the last received from Lancaster, and those formerly received from Lisbon, be referred to the committee of correspondence.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the memorial from the inhabitants of Newport, and the papers accompanying it; and, thereupon, came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the said memorial be referred to the consideration of the general assembly of the colony of Rhode-Island.

The committee, to whom it was referred to consider how the share of prizes, allotted to the captors, ought to be divided between the officers and men, brought in their report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That the commander in chief have one-twentieth part of the said allotted prize-money, taken by any ship or ships, armed vessel or vessels, under his orders and command.

That the captain of any single ship or armed vessel, have two-twentieth parts of his share, but, if more ships or armed vessels be in company when a prize is taken, then the two-twentieth parts to be divided amongst all the said captains.

That the captains of marines, lieutenants of the ships or armed vessels, and masters thereof, share together, and have three twentieth parts divided amongst them equally, of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the lieutenants of marines, surgeons, chaplains, pursers, boatswain, gunners, carpenters, the masters' mates, and the secretary of the fleet, share together, and have two-twentieth parts and one-half of a twentieth part divided among them, equally of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the following petty warrant and petty officers, viz. (allowing for each ship, six midshipmen; for each brig, four midshipmen, and each sloop, two midshipmen, one captain's clerk, one surgeon's mate, one steward, one sail-maker, one cooper, one armorer, two boatswain's mates, two gunner's mates, two carpenter's mates, one cook, one cockswain, two serjeants of marines for each ship, and one serjeant for each brig and sloop) have three-twentieth parts divided among them equally, and when a prize is taken by any ship or vessel on board or in company of which the commander in chief is, then the commander in chief's cook or cockswain to be added to this allotment, and have their shares with these last mentioned.

That the remaining eight-twentieth parts, and one-half of the twentieth part, be divided among the rest of the ship or ship's companies, as it may happen, share and share alike.

That no officer or man have any share but such as are actually on board their several vessels, when any prize or prizes are taken, excepting only such as may have been ordered on board any other prizes before taken, or sent away by his or their commanding officers.

The committee on general Schuyler's letters, &c. brought in a further report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed to Monday next.

A letter from general Schuyler, dated the 30th of December, enclosing copies of letters from general Montgomery and general Wooster, being received, was read.

Adjourned to Monday next at ten o'clock.

### MONDAY, January 8, 1776.

A letter from general Schuyler, dated the 26th of December, enclosing a copy of a letter from general Montgomery, dated December 5th, and a list of the ordnance sent to Cambridge, also a letter from Baltimore, enclosing an affidavit of capt. Horn, being received, were read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee on general Schuyler's letters, thereupon came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That shipwrights be immediately sent from New-York and Philadelphia to general Schuyler, or the commander in chief of the forces at Ticonderoga, to be employed by him in constructing a number of batteaus, not exceeding one hundred, for transporting troops, with their baggage, from that place into Canada, whenever it may be found necessary.

That a sufficient number of suitable men be engaged for rowing said batteaus ; and that a large quantity of provisions and stores be sent this winter to fort George.

That general Schuyler be desired to have the river St. Lawrence, above and below Quebec, well explored, and to determine upon proper places, for opposing, by armed boats or otherwise, any attempts of the enemy to penetrate that country by the river ; and that he give orders for constructing speedily as many such boats as he shall judge necessary.

That two shipwrights be immediately sent from Philadelphia, to be employed under the direction of the committee of inspection at Albany, in constructing scows for facilitating the passage over Hudson's river.

*Resolved*, That the provision heretofore made for an hospital in the northern army, when it was more numerous than it is now, is sufficient.

*Resolved*, That the convention of New-York be desired to send three thousand bushels of salt, besides what general Schuyler hath already ordered to be brought to Ticonderoga.

*Resolved*, That the governor of Connecticut, the general assemblies of Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, and the convention of New-York, be written to forthwith, by the delegates of the said colonies respectively, to furnish general Schuyler with the account of money paid to any persons in the army under his command, specifying the names of those to whom the money was paid by their order.

*Resolved*, That the contract made by general Schuyler, to allow one-twelfth part of a dollar per day, for billeting money to every one of the men, who enlist in the northern army, until they can march to the place where provisions may be delivered to them, be made good.

*Resolved*, That the officers of the northern army, be accountable for such public stores issued to them, as may be lost through carelessness by their respective corps, and that the value thereof be deducted out of the pay of those who have embezzled or wasted the same.

*Resolved*, That this Congress does approve of the raising a battalion of Canadians, and of the appointment of James Livingston, esq. colonel thereof.

*Resolved*, That nine battalions, including that of Canadians under colonel Livingston, be kept up and maintained the present year for the defence of Canada.

*Resolved*, That the first Pennsylvania battalion, under colonel Bull, and the second New-Jersey battalion, under colonel Maxwell, be ordered to march immediately to Albany, and there put themselves under the command of general Schuyler, and that the orders given for the march of three companies of colonel Bull's battalion to Accomack and Northampton be countermanded.

And, to make up the rest of the battalions voted for the defence of Canada, that one battalion be raised in New-Hampshire, one in Connecticut, and one in New-York; that two battalions be formed out of the troops now in Canada, and that general Montgomery be desired to recommend proper persons for officers in said battalions; and that one of the five battalions, lately ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, be destined for Canada.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing the battalions destined for Canada, with provisions, and for expediting their march.

The members chosen, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Deane, and Mr. M'Kean.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be deferred till to-morrow.

Information being given to Congress, that about fifty-seven tons of salt-petre were arrived at Philadelphia, and about fifteen tons of powder at New-York, for sale:

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to treat for the purchase of the salt-petre, and enquire how it may be most speedily manufactured into powder, and report to Congress.

That Mr. P. Livingston, Mr. Alsop, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Lewis, be directed to purchase, on the best terms they can, for the use of the United Colonies, the powder arrived at New-York, and forward the same, with all possible expedition, under a guard, to the camp at Cambridge.

*Resolved*, That the convention or committee of safety of Maryland, be requested to order three companies of the minute-men in the service of that colony, to march immediately from thence to the counties of Accomack and Northampton, in Virginia, instead of the forces that were directed to go thither from Pennsylvania, and to lay before Congress the accounts of their subsistence and pay, which shall be paid out of the continental treasury.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be desired to send five hundred pounds weight of powder to the colony of Virginia, for the use of the forces to be employed in the counties of Accomack and Northampton.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, January 9, 1776.

A letter from Mr. M. Tilghman, with sundry papers enclosed, also some despatches from governor Franklin, and a letter from C. Skinner, which were intercepted, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to Mr. Tilghman, informing him, that the Hornet and Wasp are under orders to sail to the capes of Delaware, and that such vessels, as are ready to sail, may take the benefit of that convoy.

That the committee for fitting out armed vessels, be directed to give orders to the captains of the Hornet and Wasp, to take under their convoy, such vessels as are ready to sail.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Michael Conolly, for expenses in conducting captain John Livingston and lieutenant Anstruther from Kingston to Lancaster, the sum of 250 dollars.

To Richard Butler, for necessaries furnished five Indians, the sum of 49.5 dollars.

To Joseph Cowperthwaite, the sum of 419.6 dollars, for expenses in conducting cash to Cambridge.

*Ordered*, That the above be paid.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers who are prisoners, and the manner in which they are at present subsisted, and report thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Dyer, and Mr. Floyd.

*Ordered*, That a certified copy of the intercepted letter of Mr. Cortland Skinner, be sent to the committee of safety for New-Jersey :

That orders be sent to lord Sterling, to take with him a sufficient force, and immediately apprehend and keep in safe custody the said Cortland Skinner, of Amboy, till further orders from this Congress.

That he carry said Cortland Skinner before the committee of safety of the colony of New-Jersey, for examination.

That the said committee be desired to transmit his examination to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the militia raised in the counties of Orange and Ulster, in the colony of New-York, by order of the Congress, for the support of the fort lately erected on Hudson's river, be discharged, except those stationed in the fort, who shall also be discharged whenever other troops arrive there to supply their places ; and that it be recommended to the committee of safety of said colony, to see that this resolve be carried into execution.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army in the Massachusetts-Bay.

That the delegates of Pennsylvania be directed to count and forward the same, with all convenient speed, under a guard of an officer and two men.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the committee on general Schuyler's letters, &c. thereupon came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That colonel V. Schaick, lieutenant-colonel Yates, and major Gansevoort, be continued in the service of the United Colonies, and that they take the command of the battalion to be levied in the colony of New-York.

That captain Lamb be appointed commander of the artillery in the northern department, with the rank of major, and that he be allowed 50 dollars per month, from the first day of the present month, as a reward for his activity and spirited conduct in the last campaign.

That no postage be paid for any letters to or from private soldiers, while engaged in actual service in the defence of the United Colonies ; and that such letters be franked by some person authorized for that purpose, by the commanding officer of the department.

That a letter be written to general Schuyler by the president, informing him, that it is the opinion of Congress, he should proceed to have the conduct of lieutenant Halsey enquired into, by a court-martial, giving him previous notice to appear in his own defence, and that such sentence should be passed on him, as such court-martial shall think just, and if the said lieutenant Halsey shall decline to submit his conduct to such examination and sentence, that then all arrears of pay due to him be stopped ; to enable him to give discharges to such officers as have quitted the service ; to assure him, that we have great confidence in his attention to the public interest, and rely, that he will give to the proper officers in his department, such orders, as will procure indemnification to the public, for any embezzlement or waste of its stores, or monies ; to empower him to remit to such of the troops, raised in the colony of New-York, as may re-inlist, any right we may have to stop wages for under-clothes delivered to them ; to desire he will communicate to Mr. Price the sense this Congress have of his friendly offices to general Montgomery, in favor of the American cause ; to return him our thanks for the same, and assure him, immediate measures shall be taken for replacing the monies he has advanced ; to notify to colonel Easton our approbation of his late services, and that we shall retain in our minds a just sense of them.

That general Schuyler be directed to appoint Mr. John M'Pherson, a major in one of the battalions ordered to be raised out of the troops in Canada.

That a conductor of artillery, a superintendent of the arms, a barrack-master, and store-keeper, be appointed to the northern army, and that general Schuyler be desired to recommend proper persons to Congress for those offices.

That the deputy pay-master general have liberty to appoint under him, two assistant pay-masters, who shall each receive 26 2-3 dollars per month, for their trouble and services.

That all the officers and soldiers in the northern department be paid in person by the deputy pay-master general, or the assistants to be appointed by him in consequence of the foregoing resolve.

That a communication be forthwith opened between Skenesborough and fort Ann, and that Woodcreek be cleared for that purpose.

That it be recommended to the committee of safety of the province of New-York, to appoint proper persons to enquire into the propriety and practicability of obstructing or lessening the depth of water in the Narrows, or in any other place at the entrance of New-York, or of any way of fortifying that pass, so as to prevent the entrance of the enemy; and also to enquire whether the depth of water in Hudson's river, below the battery, may not easily be lessened, so as to prevent large ships passing up, and to make an estimate of the expense, and report their proceedings in the premises immediately to Congress.

That to-morrow be assigned for the choice of two brigadier-generals, viz. one for the army in Massachusetts-Bay, and the other for the army in the northern department.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *January 10, 1776.*

A letter from Rachel Stelle, with an account for the subsistence of officers, was laid before Congress.

*Ordered,* That the same be referred to the committee on the conduct of officers, &c.

*Resolved,* That the commissioners for Indian affairs, in the northern department, be directed to pay the rev. Mr. Wheelock 500 dollars, agreeable to a resolution of Congress, passed the 12th day of July last.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for facilitating the march of the battalions destined for Canada, brought in their report, which was read, and the Congress therewith concurring.

*Resolved,* That three first lieutenants, eight second lieutenants, one ensign, and a quarter-master, be appointed to supply the vacancies in colonel Bull's battalion.

That for the said battalion there be provided 688 caps, 688 pair of mittens, 688 pair of stockings, 688 pair of leggings, 688 pair of shoes, 688 haversacks, 688 slings for firelocks, 1200 shirts, 688 waistcoats, 500 pair of breeches, 300 blankets, 64 pitching axes, and 9 baggage wagons.

That for colonel Maxwell's battalion there be provided 688 haversacks, 688 cartouch boxes and cross belts, 688 tomahawks, 64 pitching axes, and 9 baggage wagons.

That both battalions be paid up to the first day of February next.

That the battalions march by companies, and that the companies follow each other at the distance of one day's march; that the quarter-masters and commissaries precede their respective battalions a few days, in order to provide lodgings and provisions on the road.

That the colonels be allowed six rations.

Lieutenant-colonels, five ditto.

Majors, four ditto.

Captains, three ditto.

Subaltern and staff-officers, two ditto, or money in lieu thereof.

That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to supply colonel Bull's battalion with the foregoing articles, or such of them as they have not already provided them with, agreeable to former resolutions of Congress; and that all the articles furnished the men, more than those allowed in lieu of bounty, be deducted out of their pay.

That Thomas Lowry be directed to provide the articles for colonel Maxwell's battalion, and that all the articles furnished the men, more than those allowed in lieu of bounty, be deducted out of their pay.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Thomas Lowry, for the sum of 35,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions raised in New-Jersey, he to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of two brigadier-generals, and the ballots being taken and examined, Joseph Fry, esq. was elected for the army in the Massachusetts-Bay, Benedict Arnold, esq. for the army in the northern department.

The committee of safety for Pennsylvania, having recommended a number of persons for field officers to the sixth battalion ordered to be raised in said colony, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken and examined,

William Irwine, esq. was elected colonel,

Thomas Hartley, esq. lieutenant-colonel,

James Dunlap, esq. major.

*Resolved*, That another battalion be raised in New-Jersey, on the same terms as the other two raised in the said colony.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the troops serving in, and destined for, Canada, be the same as that of the army at Cambridge; and that this pay commence to the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey battalions, from the time they set out on their march to Canada.

The Congress considering the great distance from colonel Heard to colonel Waterbury, the difficulty of co-operating with each other in their expedition into Queen's county; thereupon,

*Resolved*, That lord Sterling be desired to furnish colonel Heard with three companies under his command, who are to join colonel Heard with the minute-men by him raised, and proceed, as soon as may be, on the expedition into Queen's county, for which colonel Heard and colonel Waterbury were appointed, and that colonel Heard be desired to send immediately an express to colonel Waterbury, with a copy of this resolution, and inform him that his service will not be required on this occasion.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of these colonies, and report as soon as possible what number of forces, in their opinion, will be necessary for the defence of the same.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hooper, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Wilson.

*Resolved*, That the colony of North-Carolina be supplied with one ton of powder by the secret committee.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To the committee of the upper district of Frederick county, Maryland, the sum of 800.1 dollars, to be paid to Daniel Hester; of which 571 dollars to be charged to captain Cressop's company, 77 1-3 dollars to captain Price's company, and the remainder to the continent.

To Furman and Hunt, for provisions, &c. furnished to prisoners, the sum of 178.2 dollars.

To William Shed, for attendance as messenger to the 4th of December, 1775, the sum of 52 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, January 11, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to endeavor to obtain a release of lieutenant — Tiley, of brigadier Wooster's regiment, now confined on board the Asia man of war, by exchanging for him an officer of the same rank of the British troops in our custody.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare instructions to the officers in the recruiting service.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Dyer, and Mr. Harrison.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the bills of credit, emitted by this Congress, thereupon came to the following resolution:

Whereas it appears to this Congress, that several evil disposed persons, in order to obstruct and defeat the efforts of the United Colonies, in defence of their just rights, have attempted to depreciate the bills of credit emitted by the authority of this Congress,

*Resolved*, therefore, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all virtue and regard for his country, as to refuse to receive said bills in payment, or obstruct and discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the committee of the city, county, or district, or in case of appeal from their decision, by the assembly, convention, council or committee of safety of the colony where he shall reside, such person shall be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these colonies.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolve be immediately published.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the sum of 6000 dollars, for the use of the first Pennsylvania battalion, the said committee to be accountable for the same.

A representation of the field officers of the Pennsylvania battalions, setting forth the inconveniencies that will arise from the battalions consisting of seven battalion companies, was presented to Congress and read:

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, January 12, 1776.**

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Henry Dewson, for provisions to captain Ross's company, the sum of 27.5 dollars.

From Turbett Francis, esq. one of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department, a balance in his hands amounting to 194 dollars.

To Volkert P. Douw, another of the commissioners of said department, expenses attending the treaty at Albany, a balance amounting to 2171.9 dollars, and that there will remain in his hands, two matrasses, about fifteen gallons of wine, some spirits, and some boards, belonging to the colonies.

*Ordered*, That the sums due to Henry Dewson, and Volkert P. Douw, esq. be paid; the latter through the hands of James Duane, esq.

The committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers who are prisoners, and the manner in which they are at present subsisted, brought in their report, which was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That the conduct of the officers at Trenton, though in other respects unexceptionable, is, as to their manner of living, exceedingly extravagant, they being boarded at taverns, and the inn-keepers supplying them in a luxurious manner, on the credit of the continent:

That the Congress will, for the future, allow two dollars per week for the board and lodgings of officers, who are prisoners, (for which sum they may have decent lodgings) to be repaid by the officers before they are released from their captivity.

That the accounts of the several inn-keepers against the officers be paid by the continent, which are also to be repaid by the said officers before their discharge.

That no tavern-keeper supply the said officers, for the future, on the credit of the continent.

That the officers now at Trenton, be directed to remove to some other place at a proper distance from the public post-road.

That the officers at Trenton have liberty to chuse the places of their residence, the choice being made consistent with former resolutions of Congress.

That a copy of the above resolutions, together with a copy of the resolution granting officers liberty to sell bills for their subsistence, be transmitted to the several committees, where officers who are prisoners reside; and that the said committees be directed to apply to the said officers for their bills to discharge the debts already incurred, and also to inform them, it is expected they will from time to time draw for their future subsistence.

*Ordered*, That Rachel Stille's account for subsistence of officers to the 4th of January 1776, amounting to 423.6 dollars, be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

A memorial from the field-officers of the first Pennsylvania battalion, was presented to Congress :

*Ordered*, That the same be referred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *January 13, 1776.*

A letter from general Washington, dated January the 4th, 1776; also a letter from the committee of safety of New-York, dated January the 3d, being received, were read :

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from the committee of safety of New-York, and to confer with Mr. Romans, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The secret committee having made report respecting the purchase of the salt-petre lately imported,

*Resolved*, That the said committee be directed to purchase the salt-petre on the best terms they can, and have it manufactured into gun-powder as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply colonel Heard with 200 pounds of gun-powder, to enable him to carry into execution the orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That John Morgan be promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, in one of the companies of colonel Bull's battalion.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, January 15, 1776.**

A paragraph of a letter from Peter Timothy, secretary to the provincial convention and committee of safety of South-Carolina, dated January 5th, to C. Gadson, esq. was read, informing that the said convention have resolved to continue the delegates, and have constituted any two of them to be a quorum to represent said colony.

A letter from general Washington, dated the 31st of December, 1775, with sundry papers enclosed, among which, a draught of captain Matthew on the treasury of Virginia, for £ 100, lawful money, advanced him by the general; also two letters from lord Sterling, dated January 8th and 11th, and a letter from governor Trumbull, with three papers enclosed, being received, were read :

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Wilson.

That the letters from lord Sterling be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Alexander.

That the letter from governor Trumbull, with the enclosed papers, be referred to the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Romans.

A letter from the committee of safety of New-York, dated January 11th, 1776, was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee on the state of the colonies.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to make an estimate of the number of cannon, that may be wanted for the defence of the United Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, and that it be an instruction to said committee to enquire what size cannon can be cast in these colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Paine.

*Resolved*, That no bought indented servants be employed on board the fleet, or in the army of the United Colonies, without the consent of their masters.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Jacob Hiltzheimer, for expresses, the sum of \$56.1 dollars.

To Jonathan Trumbull, jun. for his expenses to Philadelphia, and returning to New-York with money, the sum of 99.7 dollars.

To Thomas Apty, for boarding several prisoners, 109.6 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to enquire into the characters of the recruits or privates taken on board the Rebecca and Frances transport, and to dismiss such of them as they judge may, with safety to the colonies, be discharged.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into their farther consideration the matter to them referred, but that not having come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That captain Matthew's draft on the treasury of Virginia, be delivered to the delegates of that colony; and that they be desired to receive the money, and pay the same to the continental treasurers.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, January 16, 1776.**

The colony of Connecticut having appointed new delegates, the same attending, produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read as follows:

"At a general Assembly of the governor and company of the English colony of Connecticut, in New-England, in America, holden at New-Haven, in said colony, on the second Thursday of October, Anno Domini 1775.

"*Resolved*, By this assembly, that Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Titus Hosmer, and William Williams, esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed delegates to represent this colony at the general Congress of the United Colonies in America, for the year ensuing, and until new be chosen; that is to say, the said Roger Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, and Samuel Huntington, esqrs. do attend said Congress, and on the failure of either of the said gentlemen, by sickness, or otherwise, then the said Titus Hosmer, or William Williams, esqrs. are to supply the place or places of any or either of the said three gentlemen first named, in such manner, that three of said delegates, and three only, do attend said Congress at any one time; and the said three delegates, or any or either of them, who shall be present in said Congress, are hereby fully authorized and empowered to represent this colony in said Congress, to consult, advise, and resolve upon measures necessary to be taken and pursued for the defence, security and preservation of the rights and liberties of the said United Colonies, and for their common safety; and of such their proceedings and resolves they do transmit authentic copies, from time to time, to the general assembly of this colony. That the said delegates now appointed do repair to, and take their seats in said Congress, by the first day of January next, in case said Congress shall be then sitting, or as soon after as said Congress shall be convened; and that the said gentlemen, who are now attending said Congress in behalf of this colony, do continue in their said office until the gentlemen now chosen, and directed to attend in manner aforesaid, shall arrive at said Congress.

"A true copy of record, examined by

GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*."

A letter from Mr. Lewis, dated January 8th, was read, recommending a stranger to the notice of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the committee on the qualifications of persons applying for offices.

*Resolved*, That a member, in the room of Mr. Dyer, be added to the committee appointed to draw up instructions to the officers employed in the recruiting service.

*Resolved*, That the several petitions of gentlemen, praying to be appointed officers in the Pennsylvania battalions, be referred to the committee on qualifications.

Application being made in behalf of Mr. Judge and the owner of a vessel lately arrived in Delaware, for leave to export provisions to the amount of the argoes by them imported:

*Resolved*, That this be referred to the secret committee.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the secret committee:

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes and Mr. Alexander.

The committee on the state of the colonies brought in a report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That another battalion be raised in the colony of North-Carolina, in order to defeat any attempt which may be made in opposition to the measures recommended by the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be referred till to-morrow.

The committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration, in a committee of the whole, the propriety of opening the ports after the first of March next.

The delegates of South-Carolina having informed the Congress, that their colony, being in want of seamen, had given orders to offer high wages to such as would engage in their service, desired the advice and opinion of Congress on this matter:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Paine, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Floyd.

*Resolved*, That the naval committee be empowered to purchase a small vessel for a tender.

The committee appointed to procure powder from Providence, brought in a report, with an account of a cargo provided for that purpose by Willing and Morris, amounting to 3233.2 dollars; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said committee be authorized to give such orders to the captain of the vessel, as they may think proper.

That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Willing and Morris, for the said sum of 3233.2 dollars.

The committee on general Washington's letters, brought in a report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress, thereupon, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the pay-master general of the army at Cambridge, be empowered to draw bills upon the president of the Congress, or, in their recess, upon the committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, for any sums of money which may be deposited in his hands, not exceeding, in any one month, the monthly expense of the army, and that such bills, countersigned by the general or commander in chief of the said army, be accepted and paid.

That the free negroes who have served faithfully in the army at Cambridge, may be re-inlisted therein, but no other.

That, if general Washington think proper, colonel R. Gridley be continued chief engineer in the army at Cambridge.

That the pay of the assistant engineers in the army at Cambridge be 26 dollars and two-thirds per month.

The committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

*Resolved*, That four members be added to the committee on the qualifications, &c. in the room of those absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Wolcott, for Connecticut, in the room of Mr. Dyer; Mr. Duane, for New-York, in the room of Mr. Jay; Mr M'Kean, for the lower counties on Delaware, in the room of Mr. Rodney; and Mr. Rogers for Maryland.

*Resolved*, That Thursday next be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the committee on Indian affairs.

*Resolved*, That a list of the committees who have not reported, be prepared and laid on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, January 17, 1776.

A petition from Dr. Benjamin Church was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Paca, and Mr. Hooper.

A petition from Ibbetson Hamar, a prisoner at Trenton, was presented to Congress and read, praying for leave to reside at Mr. Stainforth's, near Princetown.

*Resolved*, That the same be granted.

A memorial from the captains and subalterns of the first Pennsylvania battalion, was presented to Congress and read, complaining of the conduct of their colonel:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee of qualifications, and that they be directed to hear the parties, and report to Congress.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports after the first of March next; and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to a resolution, which he read in his place, and delivered in.

The report being again read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, to consider under what regulations and restrictions the trade of the United Colonies ought to be carried on, after the first of March next.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Morris, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Sherman.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Romans.

The member chosen, Mr. Wolcott.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions for the officers in the recruiting service, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress, thereupon, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the colonels of the several battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their officers, on recruiting service, to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

That the recruiting officers ought to be careful to enlist none but healthy, sound and able-bodied men, and not under sixteen years of age.

That the colonels of the several battalions aforesaid, appoint some place or places of rendezvous, to which the recruits may be sent, and where the battalions may be quartered.

That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the troops in quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

That the quarters of the troops be duly discharged once every week.

That an allowance of one dollar and a third of a dollar per man, be made to the recruiting officers in lieu of their expenses in recruiting, exclusive of the subsistence-money allowed them. And that, in case any man be enlisted contrary to the foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the subsistence-money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such recruiting officers.

That the colonels of the several battalions to be raised in Pennsylvania, be supplied with money for the recruiting service, by the committee of safety of said colony, and disburse the same to the several recruiting officers; the colonels and other officers to be accountable for what they shall receive, and all arrears they may fall into, to be stopped from their pay.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one dollar and one-third of a dollar per man, be allowed to the officers of the first Pennsylvania battalion, for each man by them enlisted, who shall have passed muster.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be empowered to advance to Mr. Regonville a sum not exceeding 400 dollars, taking his draught or bill on his agent in Canada, for the same.

A letter from general Schuyler, dated January the 13th, enclosing copies of letters from gen. Wooster, colonel Arnold, and others, were laid before Congress, and read, containing an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain

possession of Quebec by storm, on the 31st of December, and of the death of general Montgomery.

The committee to whom the matter of South-Carolina, respecting the engaging of seamen, was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, January 18, 1776.**

The committee to whom the petition of Dr. Church was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That governor Trumbull be desired to give order for the removal of Dr. Church to some more comfortable place of confinement than that where he now is, if such can be found in that colony; and that, for the advancement of his health, the said Dr. Church be permitted to ride out, at proper seasons, under a trusty guard, who will be careful to prevent his carrying on any correspondence, or doing any act prejudicial to the safety and welfare of the United Colonies.

A letter from the committee of Frederick-town, Maryland, enclosing sundry intercepted letters found upon Dr. John Smith, one of Connolly's associates, being brought by the guard who had the charge of bringing down said Smith, was laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety for the colony of Pennsylvania, to take the examination of the said Dr. Smith, and then commit him to safe and close confinement.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from general Schuyler of the 13th of January, with the enclosures, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, January 19, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That five members be elected for the committee of claims, in the room of those who are absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Wolcott, for Connecticut, in the room of Mr. Deane; Mr. Floyd, for New-York, in the room of Mr. Lewis; Mr. M'Kean, for the lower counties on Delaware, in the room of Mr. Rodney; Mr. Rogers, for Maryland, in the room of Mr. Johnson; Mr. E. Rutledge, for South-Carolina, in the room of Mr. Gadsden.

The committee to whom the letters from Lancaster were referred, brought in an answer, which was read and approved:

*Ordered*, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the matter of South-Carolina, respecting seamen; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to captain Cochran, who is arrived here for the purpose of recruiting seamen, to pursue the following plan in the enlist- ing service in which he is employed by the colony of South-Carolina.

That he offer to each able-bodied seaman the wages of eight dollars per month, and that he pay to them nine dollars bounty, and, upon their arrival in South-Carolina, the further bounty of five dollars.

That captain Cochran repair immediately to the camp at Cambridge, and take the advice and direction of general Washington on this affair, and proceed to enlist his seamen in such parts of the country as will be the least prejudicial to the continental service.

That the president write to general Washington, acquainting him with the situation of South-Carolina, the necessity that colony is in for seamen, and desiring that he will please to forward this service.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To the committee of Berks county, for provisions, ammunition, &c. furnished the rifle companies, £11 14 10, and for necessaries furnished the prisoners from St. John's, the sum of £8 13 11, amounting, in the whole, to £20 8 9, equal to 54.5 dollars, to be paid to Dr. Jonathan Potts.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the delegates of South-Carolina, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, which was appropriated for Indian affairs in the southern department.

The council of safety for the three lower counties on Delaware, having recommended sundry gentlemen for field officers, of the battalion ordered to be raised in that colony, the Congress proceeded to an election, and the ballots being taken,

John Haslet, esq. was elected colonel, and

Gunning Bedford, esq. lieutenant-colonel.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the committee on the state of the colonies :

*Resolved*, That four battalions be raised in the colony of New-York, for the defence of that colony, upon the same pay with those directed to be raised in the colony of Pennsylvania ; and that they be stationed as the commanding officer of the New-York department shall think best, to garrison the several forts in that colony, from Crown-Point to the southward, and to prevent depredations upon Long-Island, and to promote the safety of the whole.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted to the council of safety of New-York ; and that they be requested, with all possible expedition, to transmit to Congress, the names of a number of gentlemen, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect field officers for said battalions.

The committee on qualifications brought in a report, which was agreed to as follows :

That Roger Stayner, and George Jenkins, be appointed first lieutenants in the first Pennsylvania battalion.

That the two eldest ensigns be promoted to be second lieutenants in the room of the above.

That Robert Allison be appointed an ensign in said battalion.

That Jacob Shallus be appointed quarter-master of said battalion.

The committee appointed to hear the complaints of the officers, and colonel Bull's defence, brought in their report, which, after debate, was referred till to-morrow.

The committee to whom general Schnyler's letter of the 13th of January, with the papers and letters enclosed, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the American army in Canada be reinforced with all possible despatch, as well for the security and relief of our friends there, as for better securing the rights and liberties not only of that colony, but the other United Colonies.

That an express be sent to the committee of safety of New Jersey, and an application made to that of Pennsylvania, immediately to quicken the officers employed in levying the forces directed to be raised in those colonies, and marched to Canada, and do all in their power to forward the service. And that the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, be requested forthwith to use their utmost endeavors to aid Mr. J. Mease in procuring of the householders therein, such blankets as may be spared from their respective families, for the use of the battalion destined for this important expedition, at so severe a season ; for which the owners shall be allowed the value of such blankets, according to the estimation of the said committee of inspection.

And that colonel Bull and colonel Maxwell, do, without delay, march such of the companies of their battalions as are now ready, to general Schuyler.

That general Washington be requested to detach from the camp at Cambridge, one battalion, if the service there will permit him to spare one, with orders to march with the greatest expedition possible to Canada.

That for the more speedy raising the battalions, ordered on the 8th of January, to be raised in the colonies of New-Hampshire, Connecticut, New-York, and Pennsylvania, for the defence of Canada, it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions, or councils, or committees of safety, of those colonies respectively, to exert their utmost endeavors in raising the said battalions, upon the same pay and subsistence as the army at Cambridge, and to furnish them with provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries, for expediting their march to Canada. And, for farther encouraging the men more cheerfully to enter into the service of their country, to give a bounty of six dollars and two-thirds, to every able-bodied effective man, properly clothed for the service, and having a good firelock, with a bayonet, and other accoutrements; and four dollars to every soldier not having the like arms and accoutrements; the arms to be supplied by the colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the soldiers' pay; and also to provide a blanket and haversack for every enlisted soldier, and, moreover, to advance one month's pay to every officer and soldier before their march, that they may be able to purchase necessary clothing.

That the first two companies which shall be complete of every battalion, do march to that country so soon as they shall be ready, and be followed in the same numbers, with like expedition, by the rest of the corps. And that it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, of the colonies in which battalions are directed to be raised, that they respectively attend to this business.

The committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, January 20, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, for the sum of 15,000 dollars, for the use of the five battalions to be raised in said colony; the said committee to be accountable.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To captain Henry Shylock, for his expenses in bringing Dr. John Smith from Hagarstown, and for his expenses in returning home, the sum of 89.3 dollars.

To John Nelson, for his expenses in bringing the said Dr. John Smith from the Little Meadows to Hagarstown, and for his trouble in attending him in this city, with allowance of expenses in returning home, the sum of 75 dollars.

To Francis Johnson, esq. for sundry expenses incurred by guards for powder, wagons, &c. the sum of 38 dollars.

To Thomas Dewees, for supporting several prisoners, the sum of 45.5 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

A memorial from colonel Bull was presented to Congress and read, praying for leave, on account of ill treatment he had received from many officers of his corps, to resign his commission.

The committee on general Schuyler's letter, brought in a farther report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That general Washington be desired to despatch a general officer, if he can be spared from the service at Cambridge, to command the army in Canada.

That, it being necessary to procure a large quantity of specie for the operations in Canada, which cannot be successfully carried on without that article, it be recommended to the general assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, upon the continent, to employ proper persons, within their respective colonies, to collect all the gold and silver coin they can, and inform Congress of the sum collected.

That it will not be expedient at present to send a committee of Congress to Canada :

That the committee of secrecy be desired to despatch one ton of gun-powder with the first companies that shall march from Pennsylvania to Canada, and that governor Trumbull be desired to send the like quantity of gun-powder with the first detachment of forces directed to march thither from Connecticut :

That the losses sustained by captain Hazen be ascertained by commissioners to be appointed by the commanding officer in Canada, and that the commissioners report their proceedings, with the examination of the witnesses, and their own opinion thereupon, to Congress :

That the general assemblies, conventions or councils, or committees of safety, of the colonies, in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of Canada, be desired to raise, for the same service, one company of matrosses, consisting of forty privates, in each colony, under proper officers ; and where a company cannot be completed, to raise as many as they can, under subaltern officers, in proportion to their numbers :

That general Wooster be desired to take possession of the medicine chest mentioned by colonel Campbell, to be claimed by Dr. Beaumont, and if it appear to him to be private property, to pay the value thereof to the owner :

That the general assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety, be desired to take the most effectual measures for recovering the arms, accoutrements, batteaus, tools, and other stores of the continent, said to have been carried off by some of the soldiers who have returned from Canada :

That 12,500 dollars be advanced to each of the general assemblies or councils, or committees of safety, of the colonies in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of Canada, for the purpose of recruiting their respective regiments :

That, from the necessity of the case, and to prevent delays, blank commissions be issued by the president for the field officers, captains, and subalterns, who are to command the battalions ordered to be raised for Canada, in New-Hampshire, and Connecticut, to be filled up with the names of such gentlemen as shall be judged most proper by the convention or committee of safety of New-Hampshire, and by the governor and council of Connecticut :

That the foregoing resolution be not drawn into a precedent :

That, exclusive of colonel Livingston and his regiment, already determined on, there be one thousand Canadians more raised, for one year, or during the present disputes, at six dollars and two-thirds bounty, and the usual pay, which number shall compose four battalions, and form one regiment, five companies of fifty men to each battalion, one captain, one lieutenant, and one ensign, to each company, and four majors, one lieutenant-colonel, and one colonel, to the whole regiment :

That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be desired to provide and despatch fives and drums to Canada, for the two regiments directed to be raised in that colony.

*Resolved*, That orders be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of New-Hampshire, for the above sum of 12,500 dollars ; and in favor of the delegates of Connecticut, for the like sum of 12,500 dollars ; and in favor of the delegates of New-York, for the like sum of 12,500 dollars, for the use of the battalions to be raised for Canada ; and that the said delegates be desired to forward the said sums to their respective colonies with all expedition ; the several colonies to be accountable for the same.

**Resolved**, That the president be directed to send an express to general Schuyler, with a letter, informing him of the measures the Congress have taken for the defence of Canada, and desiring him to forward the same to general Wooster :

That he likewise despatch an express, with the like information, to general Washington, to the governor of Connecticut, and the convention or council of safety of New-Jersey, New-York and New-Hampshire.

The committee on qualifications having recommended the following persons for ensigns in the first Pennsylvania battalion, viz: Nicholas Scull, Joseph Greenway, John Irvine, John Brice, Richard Rice, and Major Walbrook, the same were agreed to, and commissions ordered to be given them accordingly.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to supply the delegates of New-Jersey with 300 pounds of powder for the use of colonel Maxwell's battalion.

**Ordered**, That Timothy Matlack deliver to the delegates of New-Jersey, or their order, a quantity of flints, for the use of said battalion, and ball or lead proportioned to 300 pounds of powder.

That the treasurers, with all expedition, send a trusty person with £1,000, in continental bills, to Samuel Patterson, esq. and receive in exchange for the same so much in silver and gold.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, January 22, 1776.

Sundry letters, viz. one from general Washington, of the 11th of January, two from lord Sterling, one of the 18th and another of the 19th of January, one from general Schuyler, of the 10th of January, and one from the committee of Trenton, of the 19th of January; also a petition from John Sparling, being received, were read.

**Resolved**, That the above letters be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Adams.

**Resolved**, That the president be empowered to employ a private secretary, to be paid by the United Colonies.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due;

To Benedict Arnold, on account of his expenses in his expedition against Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, a balance amounting to 819 dollars, to be paid to Silas Deane, esq.

**Ordered**, That the same be paid.

**Resolved**, That the committee of Trenton be desired to send general Prescott and captain Chace under a guard to Philadelphia.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed, to consider a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of general Montgomery :

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston, Dr. Franklin, and Mr. Hooper.

The Congress proceeded to the election of field-officers for the second Canadian regiment, and,

Moses Hazen, esq. was elected colonel.

Edward Antil, esq. lieutenant-colonel.

**Resolved**, That the United Colonies will indemnify colonel Hazen for any loss of half-pay he may sustain in consequence of his entering into their service.

**Resolved**, That the appointment of majors, captains, and subaltern and staff-officers in the second Canadian regiment, be left to the commander in chief in Canada, with the advice of the general officers in that country, and of colonel Hazen, lieutenant-colonel Antil, and Mr. Price.

The Congress resumed the consideration of colonel Bull's application, for leave to resign his commission.

*Resolved*, That leave be granted him.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a colonel for the first Pennsylvania battalion, in the room of colonel Bull, and John Philip de Haas was elected.

A memorial from captain Duncan Campbell, a prisoner, being presented to Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be empowered to take his parole, and that he have leave to reside at Lancaster.

Application being made in behalf of lieutenant M'Donnald, for leave to come to Philadelphia, and remain there five days, in order to transact some necessary business ;

*Resolved*, That leave be granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, January 23, 1776.

A letter from general Schuyler, of the 14th of January, enclosing a letter from general Arnold, was read :

*Ordered*, That the secretary draw up a narrative of the repulse our troops met with, and of the loss sustained in their unsuccessful attempt on Quebec, and lay the same before Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of Canada.

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Lynch and Mr. Wilson.

*Resolved*, That the articles of war be translated into French, and 500 copies sent to Canada.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Adam Ekel, for wagonage from Lancaster to Cambridge, with captain Smith's company of riflemen, a balance of 43.3 dollars.

To Deborah Siddens, for provisions for captain Ross's company, the sum of 15.3 dollars.

To John Jervis, for ferriage, horse-hire, &c. the sum of 12 dollars.

To the committee of Romboiet precinct, in Dutchess county, in the colony of New-York, the sum of 129.4 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for wagonage, the sum of 67 dollars.

To Timothy Matlack, for cash by him paid to Archibald Dick, the expenses of a guard over a powder-wagon, 16.4 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on Indian affairs, which, after debate, was recommitted.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of safety of the three lower counties on Delaware, for the sum of 3000 dollars, for the use of the battalion ordered to be raised in that colony ; the said committee to be ordered to be accountable for the expenditure.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, January 24, 1776.

A letter from the committee of Trenton, of January the 23d, was read.

The secretary laid before Congress an account of the repulse our troops met with in their attempt on Quebec, the 31st of December ; which was read :

*Ordered*, That the same be published.

*Resolved*, That such of the soldiers, ordered to Canada, as are married, and are desirous of having part of their pay given to their wives, be indulged ; and that the captains or pay-master be directed, in future payment of such soldiers, to deduct such part of their monthly pay.

*Resolved*, That the president be directed to inform general Schuyler, that the return of cannon mentioned in his letter of December 21st, is mislaid, and

that therefore he is desired to make a return, as soon as possible, of all the cannon and artillery at Crown-Point and Ticonderoga, exclusive of those, taken by colonel Knox, for general Washington.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Bankson be appointed a first lieutenant, in the room of Mr. Morgan, who is in the country.

Information being given to Congress that some soldiers in the first Pennsylvania battalion, now under orders to march to Canada, are not supplied with arms :

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of said battalion be directed to make a return of the arms of said battalion, and how many are wanting, to the president of the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia :

That the said committee be desired to use their utmost influence to provide good arms for such of said battalion as may want them.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a war office, and the powers with which the said office should be vested.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Franklin, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Ward, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Morris.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of Canada, reported a draught which being read and considered, was approved.

*Ordered*, That the same be immediately translated and printed.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Carpenter Wharton, for the sum of 1000 dollars, to enable him to supply the first Pennsylvania battalion with provisions on their march to Albany; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Alexander.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of colonel Hazen, for the sum of 533 1-5 dollars, he to be accountable.

That a like order be drawn in favor of colonel Antil, for the sum of 200 dollars.

That the sum of 2666 2-3 dollars, in specie, be advanced to colonel Hazen, for the use of the battalion to be by him raised in Canada; he to be accountable.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

#### THURSDAY, January 25, 1776.

Sundry letters, viz. one from the committee of Trenton, dated the 23d of January; one from Ibbetson Hamar, and from Dr. Richard Huddleston, of the same date; and one from the committee of Lancaster, of the 22d of January, were read, and referred to the committee of correspondence.

A letter from colonel Maxwell, respecting the unprepared state of his battalion, being read :

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of Trenton, for the sum of 4000 dollars, to purchase arms for colonel Maxwell's battalion, the said committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the president write to the said committee, and to Mr. Lowry, stimulating them to furnish colonel Maxwell's battalion with the articles necessary for their march; and that the president write to colonel Maxwell, and direct him to send forward to Albany, the first company that can be got ready, and that he cause the other companies to march with like expedition, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to take the examination of brigadier-general Prescott and captain Chace, who are arrived at Philadelphia, and report to Congress :

The members chosen, Mr. Adams, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Sherman.

The committee appointed to consider of a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of general Montgomery, brought in their report, which was agreed to as follows :

It being not only a tribute of gratitude justly due to the memory of those who have peculiarly distinguished themselves in the glorious cause of liberty, to perpetuate their names by the most durable monuments erected to their honor, but also greatly conducive to inspire posterity with an emulation of their illustrious actions :

**Resolved**, That, to express the veneration of the United Colonies for their late general, Richard Montgomery, and the deep sense they entertain of the many signal and important services of that gallant officer, who, after a series of successes, amidst the most discouraging difficulties, fell at length in a gallant attack upon Quebec, the capital of Canada ; and to transmit to future ages, as examples truly worthy of imitation, his patriotism, conduct, boldness of enterprize, insuperable perseverance, and contempt of danger and death ; a monument be procured from Paris, or any other part of France, with an inscription, sacred to his memory, and expressive of his amiable character and heroic achievements. And that the continental treasurers be directed to advance a sum, not exceeding £ 300 sterling, to Dr. Benjamin Franklin (who is desired to see this resolution properly executed) for defraying the expense thereof.

That Dr. Smith be desired to prepare and deliver a funeral oration in honor of general Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers, who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of American liberty.

**Resolved**, That the direction of the fleet fitted out by the order of Congress, be left to the naval committee.

A letter from general Washington, dated the 14th of January, being received, was read, and referred to the committee of correspondence.

**Resolved**, That Mr. James Mease be appointed a commissary to supply the battalions, ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, with the articles allowed by Congress ; and that he be allowed for his trouble, one and one-fourth per cent. in full of all charges for the money passing through his hands, and that he give security for the just and faithful expenditure of the same.

That Mr. Lynch and Mr. Allen take the security.

**Resolved**, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of North-Carolina, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in that colony.

The committee appointed to take the examination of general Prescott and captain Chace, made report of their proceedings :

**Resolved**, That the said committee be directed to make farther enquiry into the character and conduct of general Prescott, and inspect the letters of general Schuyler and general Montgomery concerning him.

**Resolved**, That colonel Roberdeau be requested to relieve the guard from Trenton, who have charge of general Prescott and captain Chase, with a trusty guard from his battalion.

**Resolved**, That the fortification at Crown-Point be not repaired ; and that the fortress at Ticonderoga be repaired and made defensible ; and that general Schuyler be desired to make return to Congress, as soon as may be, of the size and number of cannon, that will be necessary to fortify that place.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, January 26, 1776.**

A letter from general Lee, dated the 22d of January, enclosing a letter from the committee of safety of New-York, was received and read.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to repair to New-York, to consult and advise with the council of safety of that colony, and with general Lee, respecting the immediate defence of the city of New-York; and that general Lee be directed to follow the determination of the said committee thereupon:

That it be an instruction to the said committee, in case the city cannot be defended, that they earnestly recommend it to the inhabitants immediately to remove their most valuable effects to a place of safety:

That the said committee be farther instructed to consult with general Lee and the committee of safety of New-York, about the fortifications on Hudson's river, and about fortifying the pass at Hellgate:

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Allen.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made for paying the troops raised in New-Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Allen.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, for the sum of 1000 dollars, the said commissioners to be accountable.

A petition from sundry persons, respecting the inlisting apprentices, was presented and read.

A letter from Pittsburg, dated the 15th of January, with enclosed papers, was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, January 27, 1776.**

A letter from general Washington, dated the 19th of January; one from the committee at Trenton, dated the 24th; one from lord Sterling, dated the 25th, and one from T. Lowry, dated the 24th of the same month, were read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To colonel C. Wynkoop, for expenses in bringing a party of prisoners from St. John's, the sum of 765.7 dollars, of which 86.2 dollars ought to be charged to the officers of the said party of prisoners.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection of Esopus, or Kingston, be directed to supply the prisoners there with necessary clothing, and also to provide them with lodging and provisions not exceeding the rations allowed to privates in the continental army, on the most reasonable terms they can.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the report of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, and the state of the Indians in the said department.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Rogers.

*Resolved*, That a commission issue to Cayashota, giving him the rank of a colonel, and that a silver gorget be presented to him.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the case of Mr. Juge,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Juge be permitted to export the manufactures or produce of the colony of Maryland (horned cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry excepted) to any port or place whatsoever, (except to Great-Britain, Ireland, British isles, the British West-Indies, and except for the supply of the British army

or navy in America) to the amount of the canvas imported by him into the said colony: the said value to be ascertained by the committee of inspection and observation for the county of Baltimore:

*Resolved*, nevertheless, that the indulgence, in this instance, ought not to be drawn into example, the same being granted to Mr. Juge on account of the peculiar circumstances of his case; and that the said Mr. Juge be enjoined, by the aforesaid committee of Baltimore, to avoid, if possible, all British ships of war and armed cutters on his voyage.

A memorial from H. Keppeler and John Steinmetz was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Wythe.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to take into consideration the matter of inlisting apprentices and persons in debt:

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Wythe.

The committee to whom the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, and the letter from V. P. Douw, esq. were referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That in order to preserve the confidence and friendship of the Indians, and to prevent their suffering for want of the necessaries of life, a suitable assortment of Indian goods, to the amount of £ 40,000 sterling, be imported on account and risk of the United Colonies:

That the said goods, when imported, be divided among the different departments, in the following proportions, viz: for the northern department, comprehending Canada, £ 13,333 6 8 sterling; for the middle department, the like value: and the residue for the southern department:

That in order to pay for the said goods, a quantity of produce of these colonies be exported to some foreign European market, where it will sell to the best advantage:

That the secret committee be empowered to contract with proper persons for importing said goods, and for exporting produce to pay for the same:

That the said goods, when imported, be delivered to the commissioners of Indian affairs for the respective departments, or their order, in the proportions before mentioned:

That the respective commissioners, or such of them as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, shall, as the goods arrive, fix a price, adding to the first cost, interest, the charge of insurance, and all other charges, and also a commission, not exceeding two and a half per cent. on the first cost, for their own care and trouble in receiving, storing and selling them to the Indian traders; but such commissioners as are, at the same time, members of Congress, shall not be burthened with this part of the business, nor receive any part of the aforesaid commission:

That no person shall be permitted to trade with the Indians without license from one or more of the commissioners of each respective department:

That all traders shall dispose of their goods at such stated reasonable prices, as shall be fixed and ascertained by the commissioners, or a majority of such as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, in each respective department, and shall allow the Indians a reasonable price for their skins and furs, and take no unjust advantage of their distress and intemperance; and, to this end, they shall, respectively, upon receiving their licenses, enter into bond to the commissioners, for the use of the United Colonies, in such penalty, as the acting commissioners or commissioner shall think proper, conditioned for the performance of the terms and regulations above prescribed:

That to such licensed traders only, the respective commissioners shall deliver the goods, so to be imported, in such proportions as they shall judge will best promote a fair trade, and relieve the necessities of the Indians:

That every trader, on receiving the goods, shall pay to the commissioners in hand, the price at which they shall be estimated; and the commissioners shall, from time to time, as the money shall come to their hands, transmit the same to the continental treasurers, deducting only the allowance for their trouble as aforesaid:

That the trade with the Indian nations shall be carried on at such posts and places only, as the commissioners for each department shall respectively appoint:

That these resolutions shall not be construed to prevent or debar any private person from importing goods for the Indian trade, under the restrictions expressed in the association.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, *January 29, 1776.*

A letter from governor Trumbull, dated January the 20th, being received, was read.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Mr. James Mease, commissary, for the sum of 5000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania.

The committee, to whom were referred the letter from general Washington, dated the 19th instant, with the papers therein mentioned, and the letter from lord Sterling, dated the 24th, and the letter from the committee at Trenton, dated the day last mentioned, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the application, made by general Washington to the governments of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, and Connecticut, in such an exigency, to raise a regiment in each of those colonies for the service of Canada, were prudent, consistent with his duty, and a farther manifestation of his commendable zeal for the good of his country; that the ready attention of the said governments to those applications, and the alacrity with which they undertook, and the expedition with which they proceed in the business, are additional proofs of their meritorious attachment to the common cause, and may produce signal public advantages: and that it be recommended to the general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, to raise the like number of matrosses, and in the like manner, and that both these and the additional regiment there, be enlisted on the same terms as those directed to be raised for this service in New-Hampshire, Connecticut, New-York, and Pennsylvania; and for this purpose, that 12,500 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Massachusetts-Bay, and forwarded by them, with blank military commissions for the field officers, captains and subalterns, signed by the president to the said general assembly:

That the three regiments to be raised in New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, for the service in Canada, be exclusive of the thirteen intended to reinforce the army at Cambridge:

That the loss of and damage to such fire arms, belonging to the soldiers in the service of the continent, as shall happen not through carelessness or misbehaviour, the value being ascertained in a proper manner, to be provided by the general assemblies, conventions, or councils or committees of safety of the United Colonies respectively, be made good to the owners; and that their arms, after their time of service is expired, be not detained from them:

That the alertness, activity and good conduct of lord Sterling, and the forwardness and spirit of the gentlemen, and others, from Elizabeth-town, who voluntarily assisted him in taking the ship Blue-Mountain Valley, were laudable and exemplary; and that his lordship be directed to secure the capture, until the further order of the Congress; and that, in the mean time, he cause such part of the loading, as would otherwise perish, to be disposed of by sale.

The committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

A petition from Dr. Wheelock, being laid before Congress, was read, and referred to the committee on Indian affairs in the middle department.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,  
To Hugh M'Clenahan, an express from Pittsburg, for expenses, &c. the sum  
of 46.2 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That general Prescott be committed to, and kept in close confinement in the gaol of Philadelphia, till further orders of Congress.

That captain Chace be remanded to Trenton, and permitted to reside with the other officers on his parole.

A memorial and proposal of captain John Nelson, respecting a company of riflemen, was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with captain Nelson.

The members chosen, Mr. Morton, Mr. Wisner, and Mr. Sherman.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, January 30, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Cadwallader and Dr. Shippen, jun. be desired to inspect the room of the gaol where general Prescott is confined, and enquire into the state of his health, and report thereon to Congress.

The committee appointed to confer with captain Nelson, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That captain Nelson's company of riflemen, now raised, consisting of one captain, three lieutenants, four serjeants, four corporals and seventy privates, be inlisted for the service of Canada, on the same terms as the other troops ordered for that service, and that they march to Canada, and join a regiment there as soon as possible : that they be allowed one quarter of a dollar per day, for their subsistence on their march to Albany :

That six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar bounty, be paid to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, who is furnished with sufficient arms, accoutrements, and clothing for the service, upon their entering into the service of the colonies, and one month's pay to the commissioned officers.

That 900 dollars be advanced to said captain Nelson for that purpose, and for the subsistence of said company to Reading :

That the sum of 700 dollars be sent to the committee of inspection at Reading : that said committee pay one month's wages to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, upon their arrival there, and deliver the residue of said sum to captain Nelson, for the subsistence of said company in their march from thence to Albany ; he to account for what money he receives with general Schuyler.

The officers of said company are, John Nelson, captain ; Moses Dicker, first-lieutenant ; Adam Ott, second ditto ; Isaac Newkirk, third ditto.

The committee, to whom general Washington's letter of the 14th of January, was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That all the tent-cloth which can be procured in Philadelphia and New-York, be purchased for the Congress, and that the quantity necessary for the ensuing campaign in the army before Boston, be forwarded thither, if so much is to be had :

That it be recommended to the several assemblies in New-England, to assist the general in procuring arms ; and that the thanks of the Congress be given to such of them as have already done so :

That Mr. James Mease, in Philadelphia, and Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop, and Mr. Morris, in New-York, be directed to carry the former resolution into execution.

The committee on the inlistment of apprentices, &c. brought in their report, and the same being taken into consideration,

**Resolved**, That no apprentice whatsoever be inlisted within the colonies of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties on Delaware or Maryland, as a soldier in the army or navy of the United Colonies, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing; and that all apprentices now inlisted as soldiers in the said army or navy, without such consent, be immediately discharged from the service, on the application of their masters or mistresses, upon payment of all just and reasonable charges of their inlistment:

That it be recommended to all creditors, whose demands against any person who is inlisted, or shall inlist, in the continental service, shall not amount to the value of 35 dollars, not to arrest any such debtor till the expiration of the time for which he is inlisted.

That every person under the age of twenty-one years, inlisting himself in the army or navy aforesaid, may, within twenty-four hours after such inlistment, obtain his discharge, by refunding the money received from the recruiting officer, and returning such necessaries as may have been supplied him by the officer, or the value thereof in money.

**Resolved**, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 1000 dollars, to discharge a draft of the pay-master general, for so much deposited with him, for the use of the United Colonies.

**Resolved**, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration an application from the committee of safety for New-York.

The members chosen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Paine, Mr. Paca, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Rodney.

**Resolved**, That the naval committee be empowered to draw on the treasurers for a sum not exceeding 30,000 dollars, in order to discharge sundry debts by them contracted.

**Resolved**, That Mr. R. Morris be added to the committee of secret correspondence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, January 31, 1776.

Sundry letters, viz. one from lord Sterling, dated the 27th of January; one from the committee of Trenton, of the 30th, one from col. St. Clair, of the 27th, and one from col. Maxwell, of the 31st of the same month, were laid before Congress, and read.

**Resolved**, That a committee of two be appointed to confer with colonel Maxwell respecting the state of his regiment, and report the means of facilitating and hastening his march.

The members chosen, Mr. Livingston and Mr. Wilson.

A report from Dr. Cadwallader and Dr. Shippen, respecting the room where general Prescott is confined, and the state of the general's health, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letter from col. St. Clair, respecting the inlistment of some of the prisoners at Lancaster,

**Resolved**, That the prisoners who have been inlisted into the continental army, be discharged, and that no more be inlisted.

**Ordered**, That a copy of the foregoing resolve be sent to the committee of Lancaster.

The committee, to whom sundry letters were referred, on the 27th instant, brought in a farther report; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That Mr. Barbarie, owner of the sloop and cargo said to have been taken by the enemy, and retaken by one of the continental vessels of war, ought to make and prosecute his claim to the same, before the court appointed, or to be appointed, by the government of the colony to which the said sloop and cargo were carried, to hear and determine causes civil and maritime, where a process ought to be instituted to confirm the re-capture, and adjust the salvage.

The committee appointed to confer with colonel Maxwell, brought in their report; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Thomas Lowry, commissary for the battalions in New-Jersey, be directed to procure all necessaries, except arms, for colonel Maxwell's regiment immediately; and that the cost of the clothing, and other articles absolutely essential, which the non-commissioned officers and privates are to pay for, be by the said commissary procured forthwith, the cost thereof to be deducted out of the pay of the said non-commissioned officers and soldiers; and that the convention, or committee of safety of New-Jersey, get the arms, already ordered, with all possible expedition, and afford Mr. Lowry all assistance in the execution of the above:

That the company in the said regiment which is nearest being furnished, be supplied by any arms and necessaries in the said battalion, and marched for Canada, and that the other companies be furnished and marched as soon as possible.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letter from lord Sterling,

*Resolved*, That the private adventures of the captain and mates of the transport Blue-Mountain Valley, be delivered to them, and that they be permitted to return to England.

The delegates for Massachusetts-Bay laid before Congress an account of their appointment; by which it appears, that the hon. John Hancock, esq. Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry, esqrs. are elected to represent the said colony in Congress, for the year 1776.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *February 1, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of the delegates of Virginia, for the sum of 333½ dollars, for the use of Mr. J. Walker, one of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, the said delegates to be accountable,

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee on the state of the treasury, in the room of Mr. Cushing.

The member chosen, Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That general Prescott be allowed the attendance of his servant, and of a physician, in case his health require it.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety for Pennsylvania be desired to take the parole of such officers who are prisoners now in Philadelphia, and order them to their respective places of residence.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on establishing posts and expresses, and after debate,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed; and that, in the mean while, Dr. Franklin be directed to write to the post-masters, and enquire on what terms expresses can be procured.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *February 2, 1776.*

Two letters from general Schuyler, dated 22d and 25th January, accompanied with an account of his expedition to Tryon county, and enclosing sundry despatches from Canada, and other papers, being received, were read, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. M'Kean.

A receipt of general Schuyler for £ 7829 9 0 Pennsylvania currency, equal to 20878.5 dollars, sent him by order of the 30th of December, was laid before Congress.

A letter from colonel Wayne being read,

*Resolved*, That colonel Wayne be directed to quarter his battalion in and near Chester, until the farther orders of Congress, or of a committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed.

*Ordered*, That the secretary deliver to Mr. J. Mease a copy of colonel Wayne's letter, so far as respects the supplying his battalion with necessaries.

The committee to whom the memorial of Mr. Aspden was referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Matthias Aspden, be permitted to export in the sloop Tryal, consigned to him from Port-au-Prince, the produce or manufactures of these colonies, (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks, excepted) to Port-au-Prince, to the amount of £ 800 Pennsylvania currency :

That the above permission be not drawn into precedent, and that Mr. Aspden take every possible precaution to avoid all British men of war, and cutters on the voyage.

The committee to whom the memorial of Keppeler and Steinmetz was referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the memorialists have no just claim to satisfaction or reparation for the loss of their ship and cargo, seized by one of the king's ships of war, and detained by admiral Greaves and general Howe, either out of the continental treasury, or out of the value of the clothing sent hither to supply the British troops at Boston, and intercepted and disposed of to the use of the American army.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take an account of the prisoners, the names of the officers, and their places of residence, and report the same to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. McKean, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Wisner.

A memorial from the rev. Mr. Samson Occum was read, and referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

#### MONDAY, February 5, 1776.

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be directed to have the arms of such of the troops marching to Canada, as pass through Albany, carefully examined there; and such of them as are deficient and want repair, exchanged for the good effective arms taken from the tories, and to order those exchanged and left, to be repaired.

The committee to whom general Schuyler's letters were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler has proceeded in disarming such inhabitants of the county of Tryon, in the colony of New-York, as were disaffected, and providing for the future tranquillity of those parts, with fidelity, prudence, and despatch, and at the same time with a proper temper towards that deluded people, and thereby performed a meritorious service:

That the cheerfulness and ready assistance of those who accompanied general Schuyler in his march to the county of Tryon, and their useful services in that expedition, discovered such a patriotic spirit, that it is hoped none of them will allow their countrymen to entertain a suspicion that any ignoble motive actuated them, by requiring a pecuniary reward, especially when they were employed in suppressing a mischief in their own neighborhood:

That the resolution of Congress of the 8th of last month, for sending shipwrights from the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, to build batteaux at Ticonderoga, be superseded; and that general Schuyler be desired to employ any such artificers, as he shall think proper, in that business:

That general Schuyler be desired to issue warrants for completing the regiment directed to be raised in New-York, for the service of Canada; and that it be recommended to the convention of that colony to appoint such officers thereof, as general Schuyler hath nominated:

That the appointments by general Schuyler of Mr. Hubbard Brown, to be conductor of artillery, Gysbert Marselis, esq. to be barrack-master, Mr. Peter

Schuyler to take charge of the arms, and Mr. Philip Van Rensselaer, to be store-keeper at Albany, be confirmed; and that general Schuyler be desired to inform Congress of the proper salaries to be annexed to those offices:

That general Schuyler be desired to procure skilful persons to assist general Wooster in exploring the river St. Lawrence, and to construct the armed boats to be kept there, according to a former resolution of Congress:

That the bounty given by general Schuyler for encouraging men to enter into the Canadian service be approved, in consideration of the severe climate and inclement season:

That by the resolution of Congress of the 8th of last month, respecting the provisions and stores to be sent to Fort George, it was intended as general Schuyler understood it, that he should be supplied with such of those articles as he should require:

That general Schuyler be desired to employ such batteau-men as are in or near Albany, instead of those it was recommended to the convention of New-York to procure, upon the best terms he can, and to acquaint Congress for what wages they will serve.

That captain — Wyncoop be employed under commodore Douglass, in the naval department.

*Ordered*, That general Schuyler's narrative of his march into Tryon county be published in the newspapers.

The committee to whom the memorial of Samson Occum, one of the Mohegan Indians, in Connecticut, was referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a friendly commerce between the people of the United Colonies and the Indians, and the propagation of the gospel, and the cultivation of the civil arts among the latter, may produce many and inestimable advantages to both; and that the commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to consider of proper places in their respective departments for the residence of ministers and school-masters, and report the same to Congress:

That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department be desired to enquire of Mr. Jacob Fowler, of the Montauke tribe of Indians, on Long-Island, and Mr. Joseph Johnson, of the Mohegan, upon what terms they will reside among the Six Nations of Indians, and instruct them in the Christian religion.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Dohicky Arundel, who was recommended to the notice of Congress by Mr. Lewis, be desired to repair to general Schuyler, and that general Schuyler be directed to examine him, and if he finds him capable, and suitably qualified, to employ him in the artillery service in Canada.

Dr. Cadwallader having, in a letter to the president, represented, that, being sent for by general Prescott last Saturday night, he found him in a dangerous state of health; and farther expressing an apprehension that the dampness of the room may endanger the general's life, if he remains there long; it was, thereupon,

*Resolved*, That Dr. Cadwallader be desired to have proper lodgings provided for general Prescott, and that general Prescott be removed from the gaol to said lodgings, and there kept under a guard.

That the commanding officer of the troops in the barracks of Philadelphia, be directed to keep a proper guard over general Prescott.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, February 6, 1776.

A letter from the committee of safety for New-York was read, informing that general Clinton arrived there on the 4th instant, but that it was apprehended his destination was to the southward.

*Ordered*, That a copy of said letter be sent to the southern colonies.

The Congress, being informed that col. Heard having performed the service enjoined him, was ready to make report of his proceedings,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with col. Heard, and receive his report :

The members chosen, Mr. Crane, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. M'Kean.

A petition from sundry captains of the New-Jersey battalions was laid before Congress and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of one dollar and one-third of a dollar be allowed to the officers of the two first New-Jersey battalions, for every recruit by them raised, and that has passed muster.

A letter from the committee of Reading, in Berks county, was read, mentioning the arrival of a number of prisoners, and desiring to know how they are to be supported ;

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to contract for supplying the prisoners.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the said committee in the room of those absent.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wolcott.

The committee on the regulations of trade, after the first of March next, brought in their report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Thursday next, then to be considered in a committee of the whole.

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be desired to encourage sutlers to attend the army in Canada ; and that they return such specie as they shall receive for the articles they supply it with, to the commissary, who shall draw orders, countersigned by the general, for the amount thereof, upon the president ; by which a sufficient stock may be in hand to pay off the soldiers, and the risk and expense of sending money for that purpose may be avoided.

The committee appointed to confer with col. Heard laid before Congress a list of nineteen persons taken into custody by him, agreeable to the orders of Congress, and brought to Philadelphia ; also two oaths taken by a number of the inhabitants of Long-Island ; one upon delivering up their arms, and the other respecting their future conduct.

The names of the prisoners are Benjamin Whitehead, Joseph French, John Polhemus, Nathaniel Moor, Samuel Hallet, William Weyman, John Shoals, John Willet, Gilbert Van Wyck, Daniel Kissam, Jacob Mott, Gabriel G. Ludlow, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, Samuel Clowes, Thomas Smith, George Weeks, David Brooks, John Townsend.

*Resolved*, That the said prisoners be sent to New-York, and delivered to the order of the convention of that colony, who are requested to confine or secure the said prisoners, until an enquiry be had by the convention into their conduct, and report thereof made to this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the committee confer with colonel Heard about the mode of sending the prisoners to New-York.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To George Kennedy, on sundry certificates by him produced, the sum of 427.1 dollars, of which 338.9 dollars, being for rifles, &c. furnished to captain Morgan's company of riflemen from Virginia, ought to be charged to said company, and the remainder to the continent.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to bring in a resolution respecting the exportation of naval stores for the public service :

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Ward, Mr. Paine, and Mr. S. Adams.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *February 7, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Peter Webbers, an express, for the sum of eight dollars, for the time he has been detained in town.

Two letters from lord Sterling, one of the 2d, and the other of the 5th of this month, with sundry papers enclosed, were read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Wythe.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter from the committee of safety for New-Jersey, respecting the prisoners ; and, after debate,

*Resolved*, That the same be re-committed to the committee who brought it in, and to the committee appointed to take an account of the prisoners :

That it be an instruction to the committee to examine the capitulations entered into with the prisoners at the time of their surrender, to have the paroles of the officers taken, to order them to their respective places of residence, to see that the capitulations be duly observed, and the orders of Congress, respecting the prisoners, punctually carried into execution, and, finally, to make a return to Congress of the paroles of the officers, their names, and places of residence, and also the number of privates, and where placed.

As only three of the former committees are now present, viz. Mr. Adams, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. Smith,

*Resolved*, That two more be added :

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wolcott.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Mr. James Mease, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, he to be accountable :

That a like order be drawn in favor of the naval committee, for the sum of 20,000 dollars, to enable them to discharge the debts by them contracted, the said committee to be accountable :

That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army at Cambridge.

The committee on the letter from Reading, reported, that they have had a conference with David Franks, esq. agent to the contractors for victualling the king's troops, who says he will order rations to be issued to the prisoners lately brought to Reading : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That D. Franks, esq. be permitted to victual the prisoners at Reading, and to sell his bills to defray the expense thereof :

That directions be given to Henry Holler to furnish said prisoners with fuel and other necessaries.

A memorial from Murray, Sansom & Co. Jacob Watson, and Frederick Rhineland, of the city of New-York, was presented to Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. Lee, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Read.

A petition of Pierre L'Farque being presented to Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the secret committee.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the journals, and report a list of the matters yet unfinished.

The members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Smith.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February 8, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That the money voted yesterday, be sent to the pay-master general, under the care of colonel Bull, and two other trusty persons.

The treasurers transmitted to Congress an account of sundry drafts by them paid, viz : -

1775. August 23. One in favor of John Mease, by general Washington, for 266 2-3 dollars.

Nov. 27. One in favor of Dr. Franklin, by James Warren, for 7111 dollars.

1776. Feb. 2. One in favor of Cox and Furman, by ditto, for 1000 dollars.

Feb. 6. One in favor of John Beane, by ditto, for 750 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above sums be charged to the account of James Warren, the pay-master general.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to contract with a proper person to supply colonel Wayne's battalion with the rations allowed them.

Also with a proper person to supply the Pennsylvania troops on the west side of the Susquehanna; and with a proper person to supply the battalion ordered to be raised in the counties on Delaware, while in that government.

The members chosen, Mr. Morton, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Wilson.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Tench Tilghman, for escorting money from Philadelphia to general Schuyler, the sum of 286.9 dollars.

To Azariah Dunham on sundry certificates for provisions to several rifle companies, 25.8 dollars.

To Melchior Meng, for wagon-hire, in carrying money to Cambridge, the sum of 76 dollars.

To Moses Gale, for the entertainment of captain Cluggage's company of riflemen, 9.7 dollars, to be paid to Henry Wisner, esq.

To John B. Scott, for expenses in conducting general Prescott from Trenton to Philadelphia, 14.3 dollars.

To George Bunner, for wagon-hire, in carrying money from Philadelphia to general Schuyler, last November, 39 dollars.

To Dennis Sneed, for ferriage, provisions, &c. the sum of 50.6 dollars, to be paid to John Alsop, esq.

To Jesse Jones, for horse-hire, 8.7 dollars, to be paid to Mr. Dealing.

To Mark Bird, for necessaries to prisoners, 5.8 dollars.

To George Meade & Co. on several certificates, 104.4 dollars, of which 99.3 being for rifles furnished to captain H. Stevenson's company, ought to be charged to said company.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The committee farther reported, that Mr. M'Kean had laid before them, an account of the application of 40 dollars put into his hands by Congress, by which it appears, that there remains in his hands, the sum of 15.4 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid to Timothy Matlack, he to be accountable.

The committee on the disposition of the prisoners, reported the form of a parole to be signed by the officers, which being read, was agreed to as follows:

I                    being made a prisoner of war, by the army of the thirteen United Colonies in North-America, do promise and engage, on my word and honor, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence immediately to                    in the province of                    being the place of my election; and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between Great-Britain and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies shall order otherwise; and that I will not directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said colonies, during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my hand, this                    day of                    A. D.

The secret committee, to whom the petition of Mr. Pierre L'Farque was referred, brought in their report, Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Pierre L'Farque be permitted to load the sloop, in which he imported a small quantity of powder and arms, with the produce of

these colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) and export the same to Martinique. And that the said Mr. Pierre L'Farque do take every possible precaution to avoid all British men of war and cutters on the voyage, and use his utmost endeavors to import into these colonies the powder and arms mentioned in his memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

The committee on the memorial of Sansom, Murray and Co. &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, respecting the erecting of powder mills, was presented to Congress and read:

*Ordered,* To lie on the table.

*Resolved,* That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Dohicky Arundel, for the sum of 1000 dollars, and that he be directed immediately to repair to general Schuyler:

That a quarter cask of powder be delivered to captain Craig, of colonel St. Clair's battalion, for the use of his company:

That the sum of 12,000 dollars be advanced to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, for the use of the four battalions ordered to be raised there; that the same be transmitted by the delegates of that colony, the said convention or committee of safety to be accountable.

A memorial from Dr. Connolly, together with a letter from Dr. Benjamin Rush, respecting the state of said Connolly's health, was presented to Congress and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved,* That the said J. Connolly be allowed, at suitable times, to walk in the prison-yard or hall, the gaol-keeper taking especial care to prevent his escape.

The inhabitants of Richmond county, in the colony of New-York, having refused to send deputies to represent them in provincial convention, and otherwise manifested their enmity and opposition to the system and measures adopted for preserving the liberties of America; and, as a just punishment for their inimical conduct, the inhabitants of that colony, having been prohibited by the convention, from all intercourse and dealings with the inhabitants of the said county, and this Congress being informed by the committee of safety of that colony, that the freeholders of the said county did afterwards, without any opposition, elect deputies to represent them in provincial convention; but, as the proceedings against them had been submitted to the consideration of Congress, it was apprehended the deputies could not be received, until the sense of Congress thereupon should be communicated:

*Resolved,* therefore, That it be referred to the said provincial convention, to take such measures respecting the admission of the deputies, and revoking the interdict against the inhabitants of said county, as they shall judge most expedient; provided, that the said deputies, and major part of the inhabitants of said county, shall subscribe the association entered into, in that colony.

*Resolved,* That Monday, the 19th day of this month, be assigned for Dr. Smith, to deliver a funeral oration in honor of general Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of American liberty.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *February 9, 1776.*

Mr. Elbridge Gerry, from the Massachusetts-Bay, attended, and produced certificate of the appointment of delegates from that colony; which was read, and is as follows:

"IN COUNCIL, *January 18, 1776.*

Whereas John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and Elbridge Gerry, esqrs. have been chosen, by joint ballot of the two houses

of assembly, to represent the colony of Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, in the American Congress, until the first day of January, A. D. 1777.

*Resolved*, That they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully empowered with the delegates from the other American colonies, to concert, direct, and order such farther measures, as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment of right and liberty to the American colonies, upon a basis permanent and secure, against the power and art of the British administration, and guarded against any future encroachments of their enemies, with power to adjourn to such times and places, as shall appear most conducive to the public safety and advantage.

Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN LOWELL, *Dep. Sec. pro tem.*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *January 18, 1776.*

Read and concurred. And the secretary is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each of those gentlemen their appointment, with an attested copy of this order. Sent up for concurrence.

JAMES WARREN, *Speaker.*

IN COUNCIL, *January 18, 1776.*

Read and concurred.

JOHN LOWELL, *Dep. Secretary pro tem.*

A true copy.

Attest,

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary.*"

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

Two from general Washington, one of the 24th, and the other of 30th of January, enclosing a copy of one to general Schuyler, the 27th January, and a number of intercepted letters :

Three from general Schuyler, 29th and 31st January, and 1st of February, enclosing copies of two letters from colonel Arnold, and sundry other papers :

One from governor Trumbull, 3d February, with sundry papers enclosed :

*Resolved*, That the foregoing letters be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Penn, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Rutledge.

Two letters from the convention of New-Jersey, of the 6th of February, were read ; the one respecting tea was referred for consideration to Monday next ; the other, recommending persons for field officers of the third battalion, ordered to be raised in that colony : Whereupon the Congress proceeded to election, and

Elias Dayton was elected colonel.

Anthony Walter White, lieutenant-colonel.

Francis Barber, major.

A memorial from Mr. Kirkland was presented to Congress and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the second memorial of Sansom, Murray, & Co. &c.

*Resolved*, That the memorialists be permitted to make sale of their cargo of wheat in Connecticut, or else to proceed on their original voyage to Falmouth, in England, and a market under the office, papers, and clearances, which the said vessel sailed with from New-York in September last ; and also subject to the former restrictions of Congress, respecting the appointment of a commander.

The Congress being informed of the arrival of some arms, powder, and salt-petre,

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 13th of last month, to purchase the salt-petre then imported, &c. be directed and empowered to take every necessary measure to have the salt-petre, now arrived, manufactured into gun-powder with all possible expedition.

That two tons of the powder now arrived, belonging to the United Colonies, be delivered to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, in part of the powder borrowed of them :

That one ton of said powder be delivered to the delegates of North-Carolina, in consequence of a former order of Congress, which has not yet been complied with :

That the committee appointed for manufacturing the salt-petre into gun-powder, be directed to enquire into the state and quantity of the arms, powder and salt-petre now arrived, and report to Congress.

A memorial from Stacy Hepburn was presented to Congress and read ;

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Penn.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, *February* 12, 1776.

A letter from general Lee, dated the 9th instant, being received, was read, wherein he informs that a transport with troops was arrived at New-York, that more might be expected, and, therefore, that a farther reinforcement was necessary to secure and defend that place : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-Jersey, immediately to send detachments of their minute-men equal to a battalion, under proper officers, to New-York, there to be under the command of major-general Lee :

That it be also recommended to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, immediately to send detachments of the four battalions of associators in Philadelphia, to New-York, there to put themselves under the command of general Lee.

*Resolved*, That the colonels of the battalions ordered to be raised in Pennsylvania, be directed to make an immediate return to Congress of the men enlisted, the places where they now are, and the manner in which they are appointed.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send to New-York, one ton of the powder belonging to the United Colonies, and that the same be delivered to the order of general Lee :

That the said committee be empowered to purchase, for the use of the United Colonies, on the best terms they can, what powder and arms arrive belonging to private persons, ; and that they furnish with good arms such of the three remaining companies of the first Pennsylvania battalion, destined for Canada, as may want them, in order that they may immediately proceed on their march.

*Resolved*, That fifty tons of salt-petre be delivered by the secret committee to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, who are requested to have the same manufactured into gun-powder, in the cheapest and most expeditious manner ; and that this Congress will confirm any contracts made for the above purpose :

That ten tons of salt-petre be by them sent to Mr. J. R. Livingston's mill, in the colony of New-York, and that Mr. Livingston be desired to manufacture it into powder, as soon as possible, and to enlarge his works, if it can conveniently be done :

That ten tons of salt-petre be also by them sent to the council of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, and that they be desired to have it manufactured into gun-powder, with all possible expedition, and sent to general Washington, for the use of the army, under his command.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of inspection for the county of Chester, to aid colonel Wayne in procuring blankets for his battalion.

The Congress being informed that a gentleman was arrived from Canada, who had matters of importance to communicate,

*Ordered*, That the committee of correspondence confer with him and report to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, February 13, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of John Chapman, for the sum of 800 dollars, to discharge a draught of the pay-master general, in favor of William Thomson, esq. dated the 28th of December last; and that the same be charged to the account of the pay-master general.

Sundry letters being received, were read, viz.

One from the convention of New-Jersey, dated the 10th; and one from Messrs. Dayton and Barber, of the 12th; and one from captain John Neville, dated Pittsburg, of the 1st of this month; and one from John Gibson, dated the 20th of January last.

*Resolved*, That the two last letters be referred to the committee on the Indian affairs, in the middle department:

That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the two former letters.

The members chosen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Adams.

*Resolved*, That an order for 8000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the committee of safety for the three lower counties on Delaware, for the use of the battalion raising in that government, the said committee to be accountable:

That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions; he to be accountable:

That Mr. Mease be directed to supply the troops in the barracks near Philadelphia, with wooden bowls, buckets, and other necessaries.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, in case the barracks near Philadelphia cannot contain all the troops raised in said colony, that they cause part of them to be quartered in the pest-house and old gaol of this city.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of colonel Bull, for the sum of 150 dollars, to defray his expenses in carrying money to Cambridge, he to be accountable.

The committee on the petition of Stacy Hepburn, brought in their report, which was agreed to as follows:

That the said petitioner be permitted to load the sloop Dolphin, with the produce of these colonies, (live stock and lumber for making casks excepted) and to transport the same to Hispaniola, he promising to use his utmost endeavors to remit the amount of said cargo in military stores, into some port of this continent, as soon as possible.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for the exportation of naval stores, brought in the same, which was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That when naval stores shall be wanted in any of the United Colonies, the assembly, convention, or committee of safety of such colony, may entrust a proper person or persons to import the same, taking sufficient security of him or them, that they will faithfully use their best endeavors to import the same into such port or ports as the said assembly, convention, or committee of safety shall direct, and, as much as possible, to avoid all British men of war and cutters; giving him or them, a certificate or certificates of the naval stores wanted, and also of his having given the said security: And that it be recommended to the convention, council of safety, and committees of observation and inspection of North-Carolina, upon receiving such certificates, to permit the person or persons producing the same, to report to the colony applying for the same, the naval stores wanted by such colony:

That it be further recommended to the said convention, council of safety, and committees of inspection and observation in North-Carolina, to give per-

mission to such vessels as may have arrived in that colony, for those articles, or such of the vessels belonging to that colony, as they may think proper, to export naval stores to any of the United Colonies, taking security as in the other cases above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the pay and subsistence of two of the battalions ordered to be raised in the colony of Virginia, commence from the first day of November last; from which time they have been in actual service.

The convention of Virginia having recommended persons for field officers of the six battalions ordered to be raised in that colony, the Congress proceeded to an election, when,

Patrick Henry, esq. was elected colonel, William Christian, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Frank Eppes, esq. major, of the first battalion.

William Woodford, esq. colonel, Charles Scott, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Alexander Spottswood, esq. major, of the second battalion.

Hugh Mercer, esq. colonel, George Wedon, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Thomas Marshal, esq. major, of the third battalion.

Adam Stephen, esq. colonel, Isaac Reed, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Robert Lawson, esq. major, of the fourth battalion.

William Peachy, esq. colonel, William Crawford, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Josiah Parker, esq. major of the fifth battalion.

Mordetai Buckner, esq. colonel, Thomas Elliot, esq. lieutenant-colonel, James Hendricks, esq. major, of the sixth battalion.

*Ordered*, That the president fill up commissions to the above officers, and that he send blank commissions to the convention of Virginia, to be by them filled up with the names of the officers appointed by them in the said battalions, under the rank of a major.

*Resolved*, That the deputy muster-master general be directed to muster the battalion raised in the three lower counties on Delaware, and also those raised in Pennsylvania, and make return to Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern colonies ought to be formed, in order that the military operations of the colonies may be carried on in a regular and systematic manner:

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Penn, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Alexander.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of Virginia, for the sum of 20,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised there, the convention of that colony to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. M'Kean be desired to request the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, not to proceed in passing any censures on the venders, and users of tea, till further orders from Congress.

*Resolved*, That the detachments marching from Philadelphia to New-York, under the command of colonel Dickinson, be allowed for subsistence, while on their march, the sum of one dollar and one-third of a dollar per week for each of the privates and non-commissioned officers; and that the commissioned officers be allowed in proportion, according to the rations allotted to them, and that they receive the same pay as the four Pennsylvania battalions, from the time they begin their march.

That a committee of three be appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the troops in New-York, and what sum of money it will be necessary to send thither, and also what sum ought to be advanced to colonel Dickinson.

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Wilson.

A petition from Mr. Bernard Romans, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, to pay Mr. Bernard Romans up to the 9th day of the present month.

*Resolved*, That an order for 600 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Samuel Fairlamb (who has contracted to supply colonel Wayne's battalion, quartered in and near Chester, at the rate of seven-ninetieths of a dollars per ration) to enable him to execute his contract, he to be accountable.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the United Colonies, brought in a draft, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That captain Gordon, upon giving his parole, be permitted, while he remains in town, to visit general Prescott at proper seasons.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1776.

*Resolved*, That two of the brass six pounders at New-York, belonging to the United Colonies, be sent to Virginia for the use of the forces there.

Sundry letters being received, were read :

One from general Schuyler of the 7th of this month; one from general Wooster of the 29th of January, and one from general Arnold of the 24th of said month.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Chase.

A letter from the committee of Amboy, dated 10th of this month, was read, and referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To John Ware, for conducting a French gentleman from Harwick township, in Sussex county, to Philadelphia, the sum of 13.2 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Application being made by some of the master-carpenters employed in building the continental frigates, to some members of this house, informing, that about fifty of their journeymen and apprentices had engaged as volunteers to march with the battalion of associators of New-York, and that their zeal for the public service was such, that they cannot be persuaded to desert by any arguments or influence of said builders :

*Resolved*, That the spirit and zeal of the said journeymen and apprentices is highly approved of by Congress; but, nevertheless, it is the opinion of this Congress, that the public will be more essentially served by their continuing at work on the said continental frigates; and that, therefore, all the carpenters, journeymen, and apprentices, employed as aforesaid, be requested to remain in that service, as there is no doubt but other associators will complete the number wanted.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the committee on the regulations and restrictions under which the ports should be opened after the first day of March next; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration, the report of the committee on the restrictions and regulations of trade after the first of March next.

The committee of correspondence, who were ordered to confer with the gentlemen from Canada, brought in their report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be referred till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to consider the best method of subsisting the troops in New-York, laid their report on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February* 15, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee deliver one hundred and fifty stand of arms to colonel Maxwell, for the use of such of the companies of his battalion as want them, in order that they may immediately proceed to Canada.

The committee to whom the letters from the convention of New-Jersey, and from the field officers of the third battalion, ordered to be raised in that colony, were referred, brought in their report, which was read, and agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That colonel Heard be directed to furnish colonel Dayton with such of the arms lately brought from Long-Island, as are or may be made fit for service, or so many of them as colonel Dayton may desire:

That 30,000 dollars be advanced to Thomas Lowry on account; and that he be fully authorized to procure all necessaries (except arms) ordered by Congress, for the three battalions raised, or to be raised, in the colony of New-Jersey:

That the convention or committee of safety of New-Jersey be allowed from the continental stock, half a ton of powder, out of which they are to re-pay what has been borrowed from Elizabeth-Town, Somerset, Woodbridge, and Brunswick:

That to the same convention or committee of safety, be advanced the further sum of 5,000 dollars, for the purpose of completing the three battalions there with arms, which they are desired to accomplish with all possible expedition.

*Resolved*, That two tons of the powder, belonging to the continent, be delivered to the delegates of Virginia, for the use of the forces in that colony.

Sundry letters by col. Ritzema being received, were read, viz.

One from general Lee, dated the 11th, and one from general Schuyler, of the 4th of this month, with one from general Wooster of the 27th of January.

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to the committee to whom the letters received yesterday were referred, and that the said committee be directed to confer with colonel Ritzema, and report to Congress.

Information being received that general Clinton was gone from New-York, the Congress came to the following resolution:

The Congress have a proper sense of the spirit and patriotism of the associators of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, in cheerfully offering and preparing to march, in order to assist in the defence of New-York; but, as the danger which occasioned an application for their service, is at present over,

*Resolved*, That their march to New-York be suspended.

*Resolved*, That a pay-master be appointed for the troops in Virginia, and that his pay be 50 dollars per month.

The Congress then proceeded to the election, and Benjamin Harrison, jun. of Berkly, was chosen.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee of correspondence,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three (two of whom to be members of Congress) be appointed to repair to Canada, there to pursue such instructions as shall be given them by Congress:

The members chosen, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Mr. S. Chase, and Mr. C. Carroll, of Carrollton.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Carroll be requested to prevail on Mr. John Carroll to accompany the committee to Canada, to assist them in such matters as they shall think useful:

That this Congress will make provision to defray any expenses which may attend this measure.

*Resolved*, That eight tons of powder be immediately sent to Canada, for the use of the forces there.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Richard Smith, for provisions furnished by sundry persons in New-York government, to captain Ross's company of rifle men, the sum of 28.8 dollars:

To Michael Connolly, on account of expenses in bringing the women and children belonging to the 26th and 7th regiments from Esopus to Reading, the sum of 1082.8 dollars:

To colonel Simes on account of expenses in bringing the baggage of the 26th and 7th regiments from Walpack to Lancaster, and several other small expenses, the sum of 569 dollars:

To Thomas M'Enry, for 800 canteen straps, the sum of 133½ dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee, to whom the letter from the committee of safety of New-York of the 3d of January, and the letter from governor Trumbull of the 6th of the same month, were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That no farther works be erected on Martler's rock, but, that those already erected there, be supported and garrisoned:

That a fascine battery, to mount heavy cannon, not exceeding eighteen in number, to be thrown up on the Gravel Hill, eastward of Martler's rock, marked in the draught LL, so as to command the west point, the reach down the river from the west point, and part of the reach up the river: and that a convenient road be opened from this battery to the barracks on Martler's rock:

That a redoubt of earth and fascines be built on the eminence on the east side of the river, opposite to the west point marked in the draught A, to mount thirty guns:

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to forward the battery at Pooplopen's kill; and that the said battery be made of earth and fascines, and to mount a number of guns, not exceeding forty:

That such of the continental troops as are or may be stationed at the aforesaid places, be employed in erecting these works and batteries, under the direction of the engineer:

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to prosecute the discovery of the lead mine at New Canaan: and that a copy of the report of Joseph Hopkins to the general assembly of Connecticut respecting this mine, be sent to them.

The Congress took into consideration the report from the committee of the whole house, and after debate,

*Resolved*, That the same be re-committed.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of the trade of these colonies after the first of March next.

*Resolved*, That the committee on ways and means to procure cannon, be directed to enquire what quantity of brass can be procured, and that they be empowered to contract for the same.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, February 16, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to furnish colonel St. Clair's battalion with arms, and that the president write to colonel St. Clair, and direct him to use the utmost diligence in getting his battalion ready, and to march the companies, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready, to Canada, with all possible expedition.

The committee appointed to make an estimate of the cannon wanted for the defence of the colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of the trade of these colonies after the first of March next; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of trade after the first of March next.

The committee to whom general Washington's and general Schuyler's letters were referred, laid their report on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

### SATURDAY, *February* 17, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for ten thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

That colonel James Irvine, of the sixth Pennsylvania battalion, be authorized and empowered to purchase good arms for the use of his battalion, the price of the same to be deducted out of the pay of the men.

The committee on the state of the treasury, brought in a report, which was read:

*Resolved*, That a standing committee of five be appointed for superintending the treasury:

That it be the business of this committee,

To examine the accounts of the treasurers, and, from time to time, report to Congress the state of the treasury;

To consider of ways and means for supplying gold and silver for the support of the army in Canada:

To employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the public accounts, with the different pay-masters and commissaries in the continental service, and the conventions, committees of safety and others who have been or shall be entrusted with the public money; and, from time to time, to report the state of such accounts to Congress:

To superintend the emission of bills of credit:

To obtain from the different assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, accounts of the number of inhabitants in each colony, according to the resolution of Congress on that subject.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Willing.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the treasury;

*Resolved*, That a farther sum of four millions of dollars be emitted on the same security as the sums heretofore emitted by Congress have been:

That the committee for superintending the treasury be directed to consider the numbers and denominations of the bills in which it will be proper to emit above four millions, and report to Congress.

The committee appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern colonies ought to be divided, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom sundry letters from brigadier-general Arnold, brigadier-general Wooster, major-general Schuyler, and major-general Lee, were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That major-general Lee be directed immediately to repair to Canada, and take command of the army of the United Colonies in that province:

That major-general Schuyler be directed to repair, as soon as his health will permit, to New-York, and take the command of the forces, and conduct the military operations there : and that the president inform him by express of this arrangement, and the reasons that led to it :

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to supply general Lee with a quantity of suitable cannon, not exceeding twelve, and one or more mortars, if to be had, with balls, shells, and other necessities for the siege or assault of Quebec ; and that they assist him in forwarding the same with all possible expedition :

That the regiment of Canadians, the raising of which is mentioned in brigadier-general Arnold's letter, of the 12th of January last, to have been put on foot by him, receive the same pay, and be subject to the same regulations as the other forces employed in Canada, and be accounted part of the number designed to be raised for that service.

That the appointment of captain ——— Rensselaer to be deputy master-general of the forces in Canada, be confirmed :

That the appointment of John Halsted, esq. to be commissary for the army before Quebec, be confirmed :

That major-general Schuyler be directed to have provisions stored in proper places near Hudson's river, between Albany and the Highlands, to supply such troops as it may be necessary to call out of the country :

That the offer made by general Schuyler to pay at the rate of four shillings per day for each of the sleds hired to forward the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey forces in their march to Canada, be complied with :

That the officers in the continental armies be enjoined to use their utmost diligence in preventing every kind of plunder ; and that all who shall offend herein, be punished according to the strictest discipline :

That the resolves of Congress for encouraging suttlers to attend the army in Canada, be published, with the information that hosiery, shoes, coarse linen, soap, rum, sugar, and wine, are much wanted there :

That a few artificers, such as armorers, smiths, carpenters, harness-makers, and wheel-wrights, with proper persons to superintend them, be forthwith sent to Canada.

That it be recommended to the convention of New-York, that such of the officers who served faithfully in Canada the last campaign, as are willing to continue there, be preferred, in the new levies of the colony of New-York, to others.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be chosen to prepare instructions for the committee appointed to go to Canada.

The members elected, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Sherman.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports, and the restrictions and regulations of trade, after the first of March next.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to purchase sundry articles of clothing for the northern army, be directed to contract for good strong shoes for the army in Canada.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on the method of subsisting the troops in New-York, &c.

*Resolved*, That the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars be advanced to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, for the support of the troops employed in the defence of that colony ; the said convention or committee of safety to be accountable for the expenditure thereof ; and that an order be drawn on the treasurers for the above sum, in favor of the delegates of that colony, who are directed to forward the same :

That it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of New-York, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said troops with the rations allowed by Congress, and with fuel and other necessities, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

On an account exhibited by the committee of Frederick county, Maryland, to be paid to S. Chase and W. Paca, esqs the sum of 860.9 dollars, of which 268.4 being for rifles, &c. furnished captain Cressop's company of riflemen, ought to be charged to the said company, and the remainder to the continent :

To Nicholas Hower, for wagonage, the sum of 74.4 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Daniel Hower.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, February 19, 1776.**

Met according to adjournment, and having attended the oration delivered in honor of general Montgomery, and of those officers and soldiers who magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of liberty,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, February 20, 1776.**

The convention of New-Jersey having made a new choice of delegates to represent that colony in Congress, three of said delegates attending, produced their credentials, which were read as follows :

“ IN PROVINCIAL CONVENTION, NEW-JERSEY, BRUNSWICK, 14th Feb. 1776 :

*Resolved*, on motion, unanimously, That William Livingston, John De Hart, Richard Smith, John Cooper, and Jonathan Dickenson Sergeant, esqrs. be delegates to represent this province in the Continental Congress, for the space of one year, or until others shall be legally appointed in their stead ; and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary ; and this province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorize our said delegates to represent and act for this province, in any one Congress to be held by virtue of such adjournments, during their delegation.

A true copy from the minutes,

WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary.*”

A letter from general Lee, of the 17th instant, was read.

A memorial from a number of the inhabitants of Northumberland, in the colony of Pennsylvania, with six papers therein enclosed, was presented to Congress and read : Also,

A petition from sundry inhabitants near Pittsburg, was presented and read :

*Resolved*, That the above memorial and petition be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Paca, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Chase.

Lieutenant Brasher, who had the orders of general Schuyler to conduct a number of Canadian prisoners to New-Jersey or Pennsylvania, having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read. Also, Mr. Shallus, quarter-master of the first Pennsylvania battalion, having had orders to conduct certain prisoners down from Kingston, and having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read.

*Resolved*, That these be referred to the committee on the prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Maxwell, or order, twenty stand of arms for the use of his battalion, he to be accountable for the same.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the ways and means of procuring cannon : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That two hundred and fifty twelve pounders, sixty nine pounders, and sixty-two four pounders, be purchased for the use of these colonies :

That the committee on the ways and means of procuring cannon, be empowered to purchase or contract for making the same:

That a new member be added to that committee:

The member chosen, Mr. W. Livingston.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Michael Connolly, expenses for wagon-hire, carrying the prisoners' baggage from Bethlehem to Reading, and his own expenses four days, the sum of 160 dollars.

To Richard Howel, for transportation of powder to Burlington, the sum of 34½ dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That colonel Wayne be directed to march with his battalion to New-York, and put himself under the command of general Lee, or the commanding officer there.

The Congress being informed that two prisoners taken at Chambly, and who had leave to stay at Newark in the province of New-Jersey, on condition of their making gun locks, for the use of the United Colonies, are not employed in that work:

*Resolved*, That the said two prisoners be ordered to Philadelphia, and put under the direction of Mr. Rittenhouse, to carry on the above business.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of powder, belonging to the United Colonies, was arrived at Brunswick, in New-Jersey,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Lewis, Mr. Alsop, and Mr. P. Livingston, be directed to forward the said powder, under a guard, with all possible expedition, to general Washington, for the use of the army under his command.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of M. la Forest, for the sum of 250 dollars, for his services in behalf of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *February* 21, 1776.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To ——— Shallus, for his expenses in conducting prisoners from Albany to Trenton, the sum of 17 3-4 dollars.

To Caspar Shaaf, for wagonage, the sum of 104 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to S. Chase, and W. Paca, esqrs.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Two letters from general Schuyler, of the 10th and 13th instant, being received, were read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

A letter from the committee of safety for Pennsylvania, of the 20th instant, respecting the prisoners at Lancaster, was read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee on the prisoners.

The committee on the treasury, to whom it was referred to consider the numbers and denominations of the bills, &c. brought in their report, which was considered, and agreed to, as follows:

That the four millions of dollars now to be emitted, consist of the following denominations:

600,000 of one-sixth of a dollar,	100,000	2,660,873	brought up,	\$ 1,391,310
600,000 of one-third do.	200,000	130,436 of three do.	-	391,308
600,000 of one-half do.	300,000	130,435 of four do.	-	521,740
600,000 of two-thirds do.	400,000	65,217 of five do.	-	326,085
130,436 of one dollar,	- 130,436	65,217 of six do.	-	391,342
130,437 of two do.	- 260,874	65,217 of seven do.	-	456,519
		65,217 of eight do.	-	521,736
2,660,873	carried up,	\$ 1,391,310		
		3,182,612		\$ 4,000,000

That the plates engraved for the two former emissions, be used in the new emission of the bills from one to eight dollars inclusive, and that those bills be expressed in the following words :

No.

Dollars.

This bill entitles the bearer to receive Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of Congress, passed at Philadelphia, February 17, 1776.

That the said bills be signed by two signers, and each different denomination numbered from No. 1. progressively.

That one plate with proper devices be engraved for the smaller bills now to be emitted, under the value of one dollar :

That the form of the bills be as follows :

One of a dollar, according to a resolution of Congress, passed at Philadelphia, February 17, 1776.

That each of these bills be signed by one signer only, and that each different denomination be numbered from No. 1. progressively as aforesaid :

That Michael Hillegas, Richard Bache, and Stephen Paschall, esqrs. be appointed and authorized to inspect the press :

That before they enter upon their office, they shall respectively take an oath or affirmation, to be to them administered by any magistrate, "well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them by a resolution of Congress, as inspectors of the press, according to the best of their skill and judgment." A certificate of which oath, or affirmation, shall be delivered to the committee on the treasury :

That each of the said inspectors respectively, shall be allowed two dollars a day for their services, while they shall be employed in inspecting the press, in the execution of the said trust.

*Resolved*, That the committee on the treasury, be directed to have the foregoing resolutions carried into execution with all convenient despatch.

The committee for receiving the applications for offices in the continental army, reported, that they have nominated Mr. Lewis Durham, for surgeon to the third battalion, now raising in the colony of New-Jersey, and recommend him to the Congress for appointment to the said office.

*Resolved*, That the report be agreed to, and that a commission be granted to Mr. Lewis Durham accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, February 22, 1776.

Two letters from general Washington, both of the 9th of this month, being received and read,

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

Accordingly, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letters just received from general Washington, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the letters referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the letters from general Washington.

Information being given by a delegate from New-Jersey, that the regiment of militia, ordered by the convention of that colony to march for the defence of New-York, in consequence of the resolve of Congress of the 12th instant, wanted arms, with which they could not be furnished, unless the Congress would supply them out of the public stock ; the Congress took this matter into consideration, and being of opinion, that it would not be proper to spare the public arms, which are wanted for the battalions raising in the continental service,

*Resolved*, That the march of the said battalion of militia be countermanded.

*Resolved*, That orders issue to quicken colonel Wayne in getting his battalion ready; and that, as fast as he can get a company properly equipped, he cause it immediately to march to New-York.

*Resolved*, That the president be directed to write to the convention of New-York, and desire them to inform Congress, what progress they have made in raising the four battalions recommended to be raised in that colony for the defence of the same.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *February 23*, 1776.

Colonel Braxton, a delegate from Virginia, attending, produced the credentials of his appointment, which were read, as follows:

“VIRGINIA, IN CONVENTION, *December 15*, 1775.

The convention, according to the order of the day, proceeded to the appointment of a delegate to represent this colony in the general Congress, in the room of the late hon. Peyton Randolph, esq. and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the delegate to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. Thomas Ludwell Lee, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Digges, Mr. William Cabel, and Mr. Carter, of Lancaster, were appointed a committee to examine the ballot-box, and report on whom the majority fell; and, it appearing, from their report, that there was a majority of the whole convention in favour of Carter Braxton, esq.

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said Carter Braxton, esq. be appointed a delegate to represent this colony in the room of the late hon. Peyton Randolph, esq.

A copy,

JOHN TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention.*”

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to return to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, the arms borrowed of them for the use of the continent.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Francis Daymon, for translating into French the rules and articles for the better regulating the continental troops, the sum of 13 1-5 dollars:

To Mons. Mesplet, for printing the military rules, and French letters to the inhabitants of Canada, the sum of 44 dollars:

To colonel Harrison, for expenses of himself, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Allen, on their journey to New York, the sum of 150.9 dollars:

To Jeremiah Traxler, for provisions, &c. for Indians who were in Philadelphia in December last, the sum of 40.8 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Mr. Kachlein:

To sundry persons for rifles furnished captain Morgan's company, the sum of 118.3 dollars, which ought to be paid to colonel Nelson, and charged to the said company.

To Clement Biddle, for shot-pouches, powder-horns, and bullet-moulds, purchased by him for the Canada regiment, the sum of 1169.3 dollars:

To sundry persons for blankets supplied captain Price's company, the sum of 32.9 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to George Read, esq.

To captain Little, for provisions for guards attending captain Campbell, the sum of 9.5 dollars:

To Christian Rhorbeck, for necessaries furnished to several prisoners of the 7th and 26th regiments, the sum of 9.4 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Adam Kimmel:

To Henry Shits, for rifles, &c. furnished to captain Stevenson's company, the sum of 78.6 dollars, to be charged to the said company:

To Abraham Ebrasher, for attending several French noblesse, from Albany to Bristol, the sum of 32 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

**Resolved,** That a committee of five be appointed to contract for the making of muskets and bayonets for the use of the United Colonies, and to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of fire arms in all parts of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Lee, and Mr. L. Morris.

**Resolved,** That the letter of Mr. Christopher Leffingwell, dated the 29th November, 1775, with sundry papers relating to the cargo of the brig Nancy, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Huntington, and Mr. Gerry.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be empowered for the purpose of procuring arms and ammunition, to export the produce of these colonies, equal to the amount of that by them exported in two vessels lately taken by the enemy.

**Resolved,** That the committee, for superintending the treasury, be authorized to employ one or more clerks for stating, keeping, and liquidating the public accounts, under their direction, and to provide books and a suitable office for that purpose :

That they have power to call upon the different committees of Congress, assemblies, conventions, councils or committees of safety, continental officers, and private persons, who have been or shall be entrusted with public money, for their accounts and vouchers, and for such other materials and information, as the said committee on the treasury shall judge to be useful, in stating, checking and auditing the public accounts.

**Resolved,** That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, and committees of correspondence and inspection in the United Colonies, to exert themselves, in devising farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of salt-petre, and of introducing that manufacture into private families.

That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions in the United Colonies, that they immediately establish public works in each and every county, in their respective colonies, at the expense of such colonies, for the manufacture of salt-petre, and appoint committees of their own members immediately to set up such manufactures :

That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions, councils, or committees of safety, of every colony, forthwith to erect powder-mills in their respective colonies, and appoint committees to build such mills, and procure persons well skilled in the manufacture of powder, at the expense of such colonies :

That a committee of this Congress, to consist of one member from each colony, be appointed to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufactures of salt-petre, sulphur and gun-powder in these colonies, and to correspond with the several assemblies and conventions, and councils or committees of safety in the several colonies, that Congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the progress made in these manufactures.

The members chosen, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Bullock.

**Ordered,** That the above resolutions respecting salt-petre, &c. be published.

It being represented that capt. Harman has enlisted into his company, and carried with him to Canada, thirteen servants, without the consent of their masters ;

**Resolved,** That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into this matter, and to report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Willing, and Mr. Wythe.

**Resolved,** That this Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letters from general Washington, &c.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, February 26, 1776.**

A letter from general Lee, dated 22d instant, was read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. L. Morris.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Carpenter Wharton, for the sum of 6000 dollars, he to be accountable.

A petition from lieutenant Jocelyn Feltham, of the 26th regiment, who was taken prisoner at Ticonderoga, was presented and read, praying leave to go to Europe for the recovery of his health.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of his petition be granted.

A representation from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, relative to vessels loaded for Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British West-Indies, was presented to Congress, and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That no vessel loaded for Great-Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, be permitted to sail until the further order of Congress; and that it be recommended to the different committees of inspection and observation, to see that this resolution be carried into execution.

*Ordered*, That the above resolve be published.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to examine and report the numbers and circumstances of the permits, and the destination of the vessels, to which such permits have been granted, for exporting the produce of the colonies, in consequence of the importation of ammunition and warlike stores; and that the representation of the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, on this subject, be referred to the said committee.

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Chase, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Wythe.

A letter from the convention of New-Jersey, dated February 24th, was read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee to whom the letter from general Lee, was this morning committed.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of Maryland, for the sum of twenty-two thousand dollars, to be by them exchanged for gold and silver, and paid back into their treasury.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, February 27, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Regonville be permitted to go to Bristol, and spend a week with his relations there; and that, after that, he return to Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 100 dollars be paid to Monsieur Dugan, for his services in the cause of the United Colonies in Canada, and that it be recommended to the commanding officer of the forces of the United Colonies in that province, to advance him to a post in the army, suitable to his merit and services.

The committee, to whom the letters from Christopher Leffingwell and others, concerning the brigantine Nancy, commanded by Thomas Davis, and her cargo, were referred, brought in their report; which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the case of the said brigantine and cargo, pertaineth to the judicature established in the colony of Connecticut for hearing and determining matters of the same kind.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern colonies ought to be formed,

*Resolved*, That New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the lower counties on Delaware, and Maryland, be put into one department, under the command of the major-general, and two brigadiers-general with proper staff:

That Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, be put into one other department, under the command of one major-general, and three brigadiers-general with proper staff:

That Friday next be assigned for the election of the majors-general, brigadiers-general, and staff-officers in the foregoing departments.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of New-Jersey, to have the cargo of the transport Blue-Mountain Valley landed, and secured in some safe place, till further orders of Congress.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *February 28*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That general Lee be directed not to proceed to Canada, until he receive further orders from Congress.

The committee, to whom the letters from general Lee and the convention of New-Jersey, were referred, brought in their report, which was read:

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to repay to the delegates of North-Carolina the four hundred weight of powder borrowed of that colony.

The committee on prisoners, to whom the letter from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection and observation for the county of Berks, in Pennsylvania, be authorized and requested to contract, upon reasonable terms, for the subsistence of such of the prisoners now in Reading as are not supplied by Mr. Franks, together with the women and children belonging to all the prisoners there, and for supplying them with fire-wood, and other things absolutely necessary for their support:

That the committees of inspection and observation for the counties, districts, or towns, assigned for the residence of prisoners, be empowered to superintend their conduct, and, in cases of gross misbehavior, to confine them, and report to Congress the proceedings had on such occasions.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolve be published.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, agreeable to the offer made by them of their service, of which Congress have a proper sense, be authorized to distribute the officers, who are prisoners in Lancaster, in such places within the province of Pennsylvania, as to that committee shall seem most proper, taking their parole, which, if they refuse to give, the said committee are empowered and directed to confine them; and that, in executing this resolve, the said committee have regard to the resolutions heretofore made by Congress, with respect to prisoners and their residence.

A petition of Anthony Marmajou, master and owner of the brig Little-Pelly, of the island of Martinique, was presented to Congress and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Marmajou be permitted to load the brigantine Little-Polly, in which he imported a small quantity of powder and arms, with the produce of these colonies, (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry and lumber for making casks excepted,) and export the same to Martinique; and that the said Anthony Marmajou do take every possible precaution to avoid all British men of war and cutters on his voyage; and that he use his utmost endeavors to import into these colonies the powder and arms mentioned in his petition,

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. J. Mease, for the sum of twenty thousand dollars, he to be accountable.

The committee, to whom the letters from general Schuyler, dated the 10th and 13th of February, and the papers there mentioned, were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a sufficient quantity of steel be sent to general Schuyler, or the commanding officer at Albany, for the armorers and the blacksmiths who

are appointed to go and work for the Indians, and that the delegates of New-Jersey be desired to provide and forward the same :

That an account of the money paid to the Pennsylvania troops who have marched to Canada, be sent to general Schuyler :

That the deputy muster-master general, Gunning Bedford, esq. be directed to repair to his post forthwith in the northern army in Canada, and that he muster the troops once in every month, and make returns to Congress and the commanding officer :

That the orders given by general Schuyler, in his letter of the 12th instant, to lieutenant-colonel Warner, be approved.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February 29, 1776.*

The colony of New-Hampshire having appointed delegates for the present year, William Whipple, esq. one of the said delegates, attended and produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read as follows :

**\* COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE—IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 23, 1776.**

*" Voted,* That Josiah Bartlett, John Langdon, and William Whipple, esq. be, and hereby are appointed delegates to represent this colony in the Continental Congress at Philadelphia for the term of one year from this time, any one of them, in the absence of the others, to have full power to represent this colony, and that not more than two of them attend at one time. Sent up for concurrence.

P. WHITE, *Speaker.*

IN COUNCIL, *eadem die.*

Read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

A true copy from the journal of council.

Attest,

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary."*

A letter of the 14th from general Washington, enclosing a letter from lord Drummond to general Robinson and sundry other papers, was read.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letter from general Washington, of the 9th instant, and the trade of the colonies after the 1st of March, and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported that the committee not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into further consideration the letter from general Washington, and the trade of the colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *March 1, 1776.*

A letter from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire, with a petition from the said colony, and sundry other papers, were read :

*Resolved,* That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Braxton, and Dr. Franklin.

A petition from the inhabitants of Falmouth being presented, was read.

*Resolved,* That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Read and Mr. Paca.

A letter from J. Mease, commissary, with sundry queries, to which he requests the answers of Congress, that he may know how to conduct the business entrusted to him, was laid before Congress and read :

*Resolved,* That the same be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Hewes.

A memorial of the merchants, traders and others, of the city of Philadelphia, was presented and read :

**Resolved,** That it be referred to a committee of the whole.

The general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, having transmitted to Congress a state of the accounts of their colony against the continent,

**Resolved,** That the same be referred for liquidation to the committee of claims.

**Resolved,** That an addition of 34 dollars a month be added to the pay of Joseph Reed, esq. secretary to general Washington, on account of the extraordinary services at present attending that office, by reason of the general's direction of the naval department.

**Resolved,** That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letter of general Washington, of the 14th, with the papers enclosed.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be directed to treat with the owners of some medicines lately imported, and to purchase the same on the most reasonable terms for the use of the continent.

**Resolved,** That major-general Lee be appointed to take the command of the continental forces in the southern department.

The Congress proceeded to the election of six brigadier-generals, and the ballots being delivered in and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen :

John Armstrong, esq.

William Thompson, esq.

Andrew Lewis, esq.

James Moore, esq.

The right hon. William, earl of Sterling.

Robert Howe, esq.

**Resolved,** That brigadier-general Armstrong be directed to repair to South-Carolina, brigadiers Lewis and Howe to Virginia, and brigadier Moore to North-Carolina, and to take the command of the forces in those respective colonies, until they receive further orders from Congress or a superior officer.

**Resolved,** That brigadier-general Thompson be directed to repair to New-York.

The orders of the day being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, *March 4*, 1776.

**Resolved,** That Mr. Alsop be appointed a member of the committee of claims, in the room of Mr. Lewis, who is absent, and Mr. Whipple in the room of Mr. Bartlett, who desires to be excused from that service.

**Resolved,** That in case of the absence of any standing member of the committee of claims, the delegates of the colony to which he belongs, be empowered to nominate one of their members to act in the stead of the absent member, till his return.

Sundry letters and papers were received and read, viz.

A letter from the convention of New-York, of the 28th February, enclosing a recommendation of gentlemen for field-officers of the four battalions ordered to be raised in that colony :

**Resolved,** That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A memorial from sundry merchants of Montreal, respecting the Indian trade :

A resolution of the committee of inspection for the county of Accomac :

Two letters from brigadier-general Wooster of the 11th and 13th February, with seven papers enclosed :

Two from brigadier-general Arnold, one of the 1st, and the other of the 12th of February :

Four from general Schuyler, dated the 15th, 20th, 21st, and 23d of the same month :

One from general Lee of the 29th :

One from the convention of New-Hampshire, of the 8th :

And one from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That the memorial from the merchants of Montreal be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. L. Morris, and Mr. Tilghman.

That the resolution from the committee of Accomac, be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

That the letters from major-generals Lee and Schuyler, and from brigadier-generals Wooster and Arnold, be referred to the committee appointed to prepare instructions for the commissioners going to Canada.

That the other letters be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to examine and report the number and circumstances of the permits granted for exporting produce, &c. brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the restraint be taken off, which, by a resolve of the 26th of last month, was laid upon vessels loading or loaded with produce for Great-Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, in consequence of permissions granted for arms and ammunition, imported into these colonies.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed, with all possible expedition, to send, under a guard, ten tons of powder to Cambridge, for the use of the army under the command of general Washington.

The committee, to whom the memorial from sundry inhabitants of Northumberland, and the petition from the inhabitants near Pittsburg, were referred brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

*Resolved*, That colonel Beletre, major Longeuil, and captain Lothiniere three of the Canadian prisoners who are at Bristol, in Pennsylvania, be permitted to come to Philadelphia, to confer with the committee on prisoners.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, *March 5*, 1776.

Two letters from general Schuyler, dated the 26th and 27th of February, with four papers enclosed, among which was a letter from James Deane to general Schuyler, of the 24th of the same month, were received and read :

*Resolved*, That the letter from James Deane be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the memorial from the inhabitants of Northumberland, &c. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, As the said memorial relates merely to disputes between the memorialists and other inhabitants of said county, and to complaints against justices of the peace of the said county, and as the common courts of judicature, and especially the legislature of the colony of Pennsylvania, are altogether competent for remedying the grievances complained of, that the said memorial with the papers therewith delivered, be transmitted to the assembly of said colony.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the letter from general Washington of the 14th of February, and the papers enclosed, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter and papers to them referred, but have come to no resolution thereon.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, so far as it has not been considered by the committee of the whole, be referred to the committee to whom his other letters of the 24th and 30th of January were referred.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, March 6, 1776.**

A letter from general Washington, of the 26th of February, was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee to whom his other letters are referred.

A letter from J. Palmer, enclosing a report of a committee of the general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, respecting lead, was read :

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on the 31st of July last, to enquire in all the colonies after virgin lead, leaden-ore, and the best method of collecting, smelting and refining it, and also the cheapest and easiest methods of making salt in these colonies, be discharged, and that the business of the said committee be referred to the committee appointed on the 23d of February last, to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of salt-petre, &c.

*Resolved*, That the letter from J. Palmer, with the enclosed report, be referred to the last mentioned committee.

A letter from general Washington, dated 18th and 21st of February last, enclosing the proceedings of a council of war, was read :

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Thomas be appointed to command the forces in Canada, and that general Washington be directed to order him immediately to repair to that province.

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Thomas be promoted to the rank of a major-general, and that a commission be sent to him accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the president acquaint general Washington by express, of this arrangement.

*Resolved*, As sundry members of the marine committee are absent, that their places be supplied by Mr. Huntington, for Connecticut, Mr. Sergeant, for New-Jersey, Mr. Harrison, for Virginia, and Mr. E. Rutledge, for South-Carolina.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send five tons of powder to New-York for the use of the continental troops there, and five tons of powder to the southern department for the use of the troops in said department.

That the said committee be directed to return to the colony of Maryland the powder borrowed by Mr. Harrison, and to the colony of New-York, and to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, the powder borrowed of them :

That the said committee be directed to deliver to the delegates of the Delaware government, one ton of powder, for which they are to be accountable, and to the delegates of New-Jersey, one ton of powder, for which that colony is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the president inform general Schuyler, that the Congress judge it necessary he should remain at Albany to make the proper arrangements respecting the army destined for Canada, and therefore that he establish his head quarters at Albany until farther orders.

*Resolved*, That Thomas Bullet, esq. be appointed deputy adjutant-general in the southern department, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Vayne the arms in their possession, for the use of his battalion, retaining so many as will be necessary for the guard that is to attend the powder to Cambridge.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, March 7, 1776.**

A letter from general Washington of the 29th of February, and a letter from general Schuyler, of the 23d of the same month, were received and read.

*Resolved*, That an order for one hundred thousand dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the delegates of Connecticut, in part of the money advanced by said colony, on account of the continent; and that the said colo-

ny be desired to send forward their accounts, with proper vouchers, in order for liquidation and payment.

The Congress being informed, that Isaac Melchior, on the evening of Saturday last, treated the president of this Congress with great rudeness, and made use of several disrespectful and contemptuous expressions towards him and this Congress,

*Ordered*, That the said Isaac Melchior attend the Congress to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock, to answer for his conduct.

*Resolved*, That Edward Hand, esq. be promoted to be colonel of the battalion of riflemen in the army at Cambridge, and James Chambers, esq. to be lieutenant-colonel of the same.

That William Winds, esq. be promoted to be colonel of the first New-Jersey battalion, and that Matthias Ogden, esq. be appointed lieutenant-colonel of the same.

*Resolved*, That the committee on qualifications be directed to supply the first and third New-Jersey battalions with proper medicine-chests and instruments.

A letter from lord Sterling, with affidavits, relative to the capture of the Amboy packet-boat, was laid before Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee to whom the letters from general Washington were referred.

The committee to whom the letter from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Hall and Sellers, for printing the continental bills of credit, the sum of 1735.4 dollars :

To Frederick Becking, for 102 reams of paper for the continental bills of credit, the sum of 707.2 dollars :

To the estate of David Hall, deceased, for stationary for the service of Congress, the sum of 50.6 dollars :

To Robert Erwin, for twenty cords of wood, the sum of eighty dollars :

To Wallore Meng, for canteen straps, the sum of 84.3 dollars :

To Jared Tracey, for carrying money from Philadelphia to Cambridge, the sum of 36 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Josiah Bartlett, esq.

To sundries, on certificates for provisions furnished several rifle companies, the sum of 35.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Alsop, esq.

To Thomas Apty, for boarding several prisoners taken from on board the Rebecca and Ann, the sum of 54.7 dollars.

To Robert Erwin, for wagonage, the sum of 637.7 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the field officers for the four battalions ordered to be raised in the colony of New-York, for the defence of the said colony.

The order of the day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, March 8, 1776.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of field-officers of the four battalions, ordered to be raised in the colony of New-York, for the defence of the said colony, and the ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen :

Alexander M'Dougal, esq. colonel, Herman Zedwitz, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Joseph Benedict, esq. major of the first battalion.

James Clinton, esq. colonel, Henry B. Livingston, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Peter P. Schuyler, esq. major of the second battalion.

Frederick Wiesenfels, lieutenant colonel, John Fisher, esq. major of the third battalion.

Cornelius D. Wyncoop, esq. colonel, Philip Courtlandt, esq. lieutenant colonel, John Nicholson, esq. major of the fourth battalion.

The Congress being informed that Mr. Melchior was attending agreeable to the orders of yesterday:

*Ordered*, That he be called in.

Mr. Melchior appearing, the particulars of the charge were repeated to him, and on his assuring the house of his not remembering his having behaved with the disrespect mentioned, owing to the particular circumstances he happened to be under, and asking pardon of the Congress and president for his indecent behaviour,

*Ordered*, That in consideration of Mr. Melchior's former services, and his present concessions, he be dismissed from farther attendance.

The committee, to whom the letters from major-general Schuyler, brigadier-general Wooster, and brigadier-general Arnold were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commissioners appointed to go to Canada, be desired to enquire into the cause of the imprisonment of the officers of militia, in that country and others, and take such measures in concert with the commanding officer of the continental forces there, for their enlargement or confinement, as are consistent with the principles of justice, and the safety of the United Colonies.

That the provisions made by general Lee and general Schuyler to supply the army in Canada with pork, the direction given by general Lee to have wheat ground into flour for their use, and his contract with the company of carpenters, be approved; and that Mr Peter Zabriskie, of Hackinsack, be employed to transport the pork, to be procured in New-Jersey, to Hudson's river, according to general Schuyler's desire.

That when the articles specified, in the rations allowed to the prisoners of war, cannot be procured, the persons who supply them with other provisions, be entitled to eight pence, New-York currency, or one-twelfth of a dollar per day for every prisoner:

That Indians be not employed as soldiers in the armies of the United Colonies, before the tribes to which they belong shall, in a national council, held in the customary manner, have consented thereunto, nor then, without express approbation of Congress.

That general Schuyler be directed to provide such a number of batteaus for the service in Canada, as shall be sufficient for it.

That general Schuyler be desired to purchase the cloth, which Mr. Henry, of Albany, hath for tents.

That the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, be desired to collect all the gold and silver coin they can, to be exchanged for continental bills of credit, for the service of Canada.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire and report the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada with provisions and necessities:

The members chosen, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Wolcott, and Mr. L. Morris.

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,000 dollars, be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the committee appointed to contract for the making of muskets, the said committee to be accountable.

A letter from colonel Hazen, of the 18th of February last, enclosing an account and estimate of the losses he has sustained, was received and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Ward, and Mr. S. Adams, who are directed to examine the said account, and report upon the several articles.

A letter from governor Trumbull, of the 2d, and a letter from general Lee, of the 5th, being received, were read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *March 9, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to general Washington, desiring him to send captain Conner, of the rifle battalion, to Philadelphia, the Congress having occasion to employ him in the southern department.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions for the commissioners going to Canada, brought in a draught which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal of the members.

Two petitions, one from Stephen Decatur, master of the schooner *L'Esperance*, and one from John Baptisto Hugonence, master of the *Tartar* the *Marc Anthony*, were presented to Congress and read, praying leave to export certain species of produce, on conditions specified in their petitions.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said petitions be granted.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of the colonies in the southern department:

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Sergeant, and Mr. Sherman.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed and authorized to sign and number the bills of credit of four millions of dollars, now emitting, viz:

Samuel Morris, John Kaighn, Nicholas Garrison, Joseph Watkins, Anthony Morris, Frederick Kuhl, Matthew Clarkson, John Ord, William Webb, Isaac Hazlehurst, Thomas Morris, Mordecai Lewis, Cornelius Barnes, Jonathan B. Smith, Robert Tuckniss, Thomas Coombe, Daniel Clymer, George Campbell, Joseph Parker, Robert Evans, Adam Hubley, Joel Evans, John Mease, John Purviance, Robert Hazlehurst, Walter Shee, Joseph Redman, Phineas Bond, William Masters, John Salter, John Howard, Thomas Leech, Thomas Smith, Philip Kinsey, Robert Roberts, Isaac Howell, James Milligan, Tench Tilghman, Joseph Bullock, David Duncan, John Shaw, jun. James Thompson, Benjamin Brannan, Samuel Sellers, Isaac Pearson, John Sellers, Benjamin Jacobs, Israel Wheelen, Josiah Hewes, Andrew Tybout, George Douglas, Peter Stretch, Samuel C. Morris, Samuel Hillegas, Nathan Sellers, George Gray, jun. James Ash, Samuel Massey, John Williams, and William Coates.

*Resolved*, That before the signers enter upon their office, they shall respectively take an oath or affirmation before any magistrate, which shall be filed with the committee of the treasury, to the following effect; that they shall well and truly sign and number all the bills to be delivered to them by the inspectors of the press appointed by the Congress, and the same so signed and numbered, shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the continental treasurers, or one of them.

And, for avoiding the dangers from fire, robbery, or negligence,

*Resolved*, That the inspectors of the press shall not deliver to any class of signers more than two parcels of two hundred sheets each, to be in their hands at any one time.

*Resolved*, That no oath by way of test be imposed upon, exacted, or required of any of the inhabitants of these colonies, by any military officers.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver one ton of powder to the delegates of Maryland, for the public service in that colony.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, *March 11, 1776.*

A letter from lord Sterling, of the 8th, enclosing three papers; and

A letter of the convention of New-York, of the 7th, enclosing an application from Patrick Sinclair, a prisoner, for leave to return to Europe, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letter from the convention of New-York, and the application of P. Sinclair,

*Resolved*, That Patrick Sinclair be allowed to return to Europe.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2,500 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. Alsop, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Sherman, to enable them to pay for the shoes purchased by them for the northern army.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with gen. Lee, respecting the ways and means of defending New-York.

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Whipple, and Mr. Rutledge.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Benjamin Town, for 789 canteens, the sum of 341.9 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the committee on qualifications be directed to provide six medicine-chests for the six Virginia battalions.

The Congress took into consideration the instructions to the commissioners going to Canada, and having spent some time thereon,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, *March* 12, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for 120,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of James Mease, commissary, he to be accountable.

A petition from Edmund Custis, and a letter from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, were presented to Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

A letter from sundry inhabitants of Westmoreland, of the 6th instant, was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A petition from Dr. Hall Jackson, was presented to Congress and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the instructions to the commissioners going to Canada, and after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee to whom the letter from colonel Moses Hazen, and the report of persons appointed to state the account of losses and damages sustained by him in Canada, were referred, brought in their report, which was read as follows :

It appears to your committee that the loss and damage sustained by colonel Hazen in Canada, have not been estimated with sufficient accuracy ; that some of the articles enumerated in the inventory are presumed to be over-rated, the quantities of several other sreducible to exactness in number, weight, or measure, are not ascertained, and the reasons for the knowledge or belief of any of them by the witnesses are not explicit enough in their examinations ; that, although the grain, grass and hay mentioned in the account are admitted by colonel Hazen, in his letter, to have been partly destroyed by the ministerial troops, the whole value is extended ; that the estimate of crops are so general, it cannot be discovered by what rule they were formed, or to what standard adjusted ; that the damage done to the dwelling-house, stone-house, out-houses, barn, and farms, are not particularized or specified ; that a considerable part of what a reimbursement is claimed for, is household furniture, wearing apparel, tools, utensils, cables, and anchors, suggested to have been plundered by the troops of the United Colonies, and Canadians who joined them ; and your committee believe that no reparation of the like kind hath yet been made by Congress ; and that the profit which might have been made of the mills and houses, if the owner had not been deprived of the use of them, being merely contingent and conjectural, are such as have not usually been made good in similar cases &c Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commissioners who are going to Canada be desired to appoint proper persons to examine, state and settle an account of the loss and damage colonel Hazen hath sustained in his property and possessions in Canada, by the forces of the United Colonies, and report the same, with any special matters they may think fit, to Congress; annexing to their report the estimates, examinations of the witnesses, and other papers relative thereto:

*Resolved*, That if any of the gentlemen appointed field officers in the four battalions raising in New-York, for the defence of that colony, are provided for in Canada, they be directed to continue there, exercising the offices to which they are appointed, and that others be elected in their room, in the four battalions aforesaid; and that such of them as are not provided for in Canada, be directed immediately to repair to their respective battalions.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *March 13*, 1776.

A letter from the committee of Essex, in New-Jersey, of the 7th, and a letter from captain J. Macpherson, of the 12th, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Samuel Fairlamb, contractor for supplying colonel Wayne's battalions with rations, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the bills drawn by the treasurers of North-Carolina, for the use of the continental troops in that colony, be paid.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply the colony of Maryland with 500 lb. of powder, for the use of the inhabitants of Cecil county.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to enquire and report the best ways and means of raising the necessary supplies to defray the expenses of the war for the present year, over and above the emission of bills of credit.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Duane, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Gerry, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Wythe.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To sundries, for expenses incurred at the oration in memory of general Montgomery, the sum of 94.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Dr. Franklin.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the memorial from the Indian traders at Montreal was referred, brought in their report.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial of Edmund Custis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, the letters from general Washington, and the state of the trade of the United Colonies, and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, but not having come to any resolution, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the matters heretofore referred to them.

Mr. W. Livingston moved for leave to bring in a resolution for appointing a fast, which was granted.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to purchase the armed vessel now in the river Delaware, on the most reasonable terms, for the services of the continent, and that her destination be left to the said committee.

**Resolved**, That the expenses of the horses of aids-de-camp, when traveling in the public service, be charged to the account of the United Colonies.  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, March 14, 1776.**

The committee appointed to confer with general Lee respecting the defence of New-York, brought in their report, which was read: Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That eight thousand men be ordered for the defence of the colony of New-York.

**Resolved**, That orders issue to colonel Irvine, colonel Shee, and colonel Magaw, of the Pennsylvania troops, and to colonel Dayton of the New-Jersey troops, to march immediately, with their respective battalions, to New-York, and to put themselves under the direction of the commanding officer there.

A letter from general Prescott of the 14th, was laid before Congress, and read:

**Resolved**, That the committee on prisoners be directed to confer with gen. Prescott on the subject of his letter, and report to Congress.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not associated, and shall refuse to associate, to defend, by arms, these United Colonies, against the hostile attempts of the British fleets and armies; and to apply the arms taken from such persons in each respective colony, in the first place to the arming the continental troops raised in said colony; in the next, to the arming such troops as are raised by the colony for its own defence, and the residue to be applied to the arming the associators; that the arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming the continental troops, be paid for by the Congress, and the residue by the respective assemblies, conventions, or councils, or committees of safety:

**Ordered**, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted by the delegates of each colony, to their respective assemblies, conventions, or councils, or committees of safety.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To William Hencher, for wagon-hire, in conveying captain Stevenson's baggage, &c. to Cambridge, the sum of 58.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Moses Hunter.

To Rachel Stille, for boarding several officers, prisoners, to the 8th of March instant, the sum of 224.7 dollars.

To Joseph Fineur, for five hundred and eleven tin cartridge boxes, the sum of 221.4 dollars.

**Ordered**, That the above accounts be paid.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, March 15, 1776.**

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress and read, viz.

One from general Washington of the 7th, with two papers enclosed, with a number of intercepted letters; two from lord Sterling, dated the 12th and 13th; one from lieutenant-colonel Allen of the 13th; one from the convention of New-York; and one from general Schuyler of the 6th.

**Resolved**, That the expenses of the horses of general officers, when traveling in the service of the continent, be defrayed by the United Colonies.

**Ordered**, That Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Franklin, call on general Lee, and direct him immediately to repair to the southern department, and take the command of the forces there.

*Resolved*, That four muskets and bayonets be lent to the delegates of Virginia, for the use of the guards that accompany the powder sent to that colony.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of New-York, and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have come to certain resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress; which being done,

*Resolved*, That captain Nelson, with his rifle company, be directed immediately to repair to New-York.

*Resolved*, That the governor of Connecticut, the conventions or councils, or committees of safety of New-York and New-Jersey, be requested to hold their militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, for the defence of New-York, as the continental commander at New-York, shall desire, and that the pay of the militias called to the defence of New-York, be the same as that of the continental troops raised and employed in the middle department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

*Resolved*, That lord Sterling be directed to order the troops destined for Canada to proceed on their march, agreeable to their former orders.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *March 16*, 1776.

A letter from lord Sterling of the 14th, enclosing a copy of general orders for the defence of New-York, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to lord Sterling, directing him immediately to send forward the powder destined for Cambridge, unless he has received express advice from general Washington, that the enemy's fleet and army have sailed out of the harbour of Boston.

*Resolved*, That the account of Mr. Price, of Canada, be referred to the committee of claims.

A petition from Coquataginta or captain White-Eyes, was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. R. H. Lee.

*Resolved*, That captain Duncan Campbell, a prisoner at Lancaster, be permitted to come to Philadelphia to meet his wife and children, and there reside till further orders.

Mr. W. Livingston, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a resolution for appointing a fast, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to as follows:

In times of impending calamity and distress; when the liberties of America are imminently endangered by the secret machinations and open assaults of an insidious and vindictive administration, it becomes the indispensable duty of these hitherto free and happy colonies, with true penitence of heart, and the most reverent devotion, publicly to acknowledge the over-ruling providence of God; to confess and deplore our offences against him; and to supplicate his interposition for averting the threatened danger, and prospering our strenuous efforts in the cause of freedom, virtue, and posterity.

The Congress, therefore, considering the war-like preparations of the British ministry to subvert our invaluable rights and privileges, and to reduce us by fire and sword, by the savages of the wilderness, and our own domestics, to the most abject and ignominious bondage: Desirous, at the same time, to have people of all ranks and degrees duly impressed with a solemn sense of God's superintending providence, and of their duty, devoutly to rely, in all their lawful enterprizes, on his aid and direction, do earnestly recommend, that Friday, the 17th day of May next, be observed by the said colonies as a day of

humiliation, fasting, and prayer; that we may, with united hearts, confess and bewail our manifold sins and transgressions, and, by a sincere repentance and amendment of life, appease his righteous displeasure, and, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, obtain his pardon and forgiveness; humbly imploring his assistance to frustrate the cruel purposes of our unnatural enemies; and by inclining their hearts to justice and benevolence, prevent the further effusion of kindred blood. But if, continuing deaf to the voice of reason and humanity, and inflexibly bent on desolation and war, they constrain us to repel their hostile invasions by open resistance, that it may please the Lord of Hosts, the God of Armies, to animate our officers and soldiers with invincible fortitude, to guard and protect them in the day of battle, and to crown the continental arms, by sea and land, with victory and success: Earnestly beseeching him to bless our civil rulers, and the representatives of the people, in their several assemblies and conventions; to preserve and strengthen their union, to inspire them with an ardent, disinterested love of their country; to give wisdom and stability to their councils; and direct them to the most efficacious measures for establishing the rights of America on the most honorable and permanent basis—that he would be graciously pleased to bless all his people in these colonies with health and plenty, and grant that a spirit of incorruptible patriotism, and of pure undefiled religion, may universally prevail; and this continent be speedily restored to the blessings of peace and liberty, and enabled to transmit them inviolate to the latest posterity. And it is recommended to Christians of all denominations, to assemble for public worship, and abstain from servile labour on the said day.

*Resolved*, That another brigadier-general be appointed in the continental army.

The ballots being taken and examined,

The baron de Woedtke was elected.

*Resolved*, That Frederick William, baron de Woedtke, appointed brigadier general in the army of the United Colonies, be ordered immediately to repair to New-York, there to remain until the commissioners appointed to go into Canada shall reach that colony: and that he be directed to join and accompany them into Canada, and there serve under the command of the continental troops in that province.

*Resolved*, That Carpenter Wharton continue, agreeable to his contract, to supply with rations the Pennsylvania battalions serving in New-York.

A petition from Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial from Edmund Custis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition from Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, &c. and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, March 18, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be directed to lay on the table an account of the silver and gold-coin in the treasury.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Arundel be directed to repair to the southern department, and put himself under the command of general Lee; and that ge-

neral Lee, if he find him capable, be directed to employ him in the artillery service.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. James Mease, to be applied to the procuring necessaries, and to the payment of the subsistence of the Pennsylvania battalions; and that the colonies be directed to account with Mr. Mease for the several sums advanced to them.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial of Edmund Custis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition of Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, but that not having concluded, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Mr. Henry, not having accepted the commission of colonel, the Congress proceeded to the election of a colonel for the first Virginia battalion, and the ballots being taken,

William Christian, esq. formerly lieutenant-colonel in said battalion, was elected colonel: and,

Francis Eppes, esq. formerly major, was elected lieutenant-colonel; and John Green, esq. was elected major.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, *March* 19, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Dohicky Arundel be appointed a captain of artillery in the continental service.

That general Lee be directed to set on foot the raising a company of artillery, and that it be recommended to the convention or committee of safety of Virginia, to appoint the other officers of the said company of artillery.

A letter of the 15th, from col. Dayton, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee for procuring muskets.

A letter of the 17th, from the convention of New-Jersey, was laid before Congress, and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That captain Woolverton, with his company, be taken into the service of the United Colonies; and that he be directed to repair, with his company, as soon as properly armed and accoutred, to New-York, and put himself under the commanding officer there; and that the pay of captain Woolverton's company commence from the time they are provided with arms and accoutrements.

A letter from colonel Beletre, a Canadian prisoner, and sundry letters from Cameron and Smith, were read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply captain Barr of the brig Lexington, with one ton of powder.

*Ordered*, That the committee to whom was referred the state and situation of the prisoners at Trenton, report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army under the immediate command of general Washington.

That the sum of 50,000 dollars be sent to general Schuyler, for the use of the army under his command.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions, &c. to the commissioners going to Canada, brought in a draught of farther instructions, and of a commission, which was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the memorial from the merchants, traders, and others, inhabitants of Philadelphia, the memorial from Edmund Custis, the letters from the committees of Accomac and Northampton, and the petition of Joseph Blewer and Daniel Robinson, and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress:

The report of the committee being read,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to draw a declaration pursuant to said report, and lay the same before Congress:

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wilson.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to said committee, to receive and insert a clause or clauses, that "all seamen and mariners on board of merchant-ships and vessels, taken and condemned as prizes, shall be entitled to their pay, according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of condemnation."

The committee to whom the letter and queries of Mr. Mease, were referred, brought in their report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Whipple be appointed a member of the marine committee, and of the committee for receiving the applications and examining the qualifications of gentlemen applying for offices in the continental service.

The committee to whom the letters from general Washington, dated the 14th and 26th of February last, and the letter from lord Sterling, of the 25th of same month, were referred, brought in their report, which was read; and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the first part thereof be re-committed.

*Resolved*, That the value of the passage boat, York, be made good to Michael Kearney, jun. the owner thereof; it appearing that she was impressed into the continental service, and employed in taking the ship Blue-Mountain Valley, and for that reason, afterwards seized and detained by order of captain Parker, commander of the British ship of war Phoenix; and that lord Sterling be desired to appoint proper persons to value said boat, and report such valuation to Congress.

*Resolved*, That a member be elected for the secret committee, in the room of Mr. Bartlett, who is absent.

The ballots being taken,

Mr. R. H. Lee was elected.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, March 20, 1776.

A letter from lord Sterling, of the 16th, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That three members be elected for the committee appointed to consider the propriety of a war-office, in the room of three, who are necessarily absent:

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Johnson.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3000 dollars be advanced to colonel Magaw, for the purpose of purchasing fire arms for his battalion, he to be accountable.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions and commission to the deputies or commissioners going to Canada, and the same being debated by paragraphs, were agreed to as follows:

### INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

You are, with all convenient despatch, to repair to Canada, and make known to the people of that country, the wishes and intentions of the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them, that the arms of the United Colonies, having been carried into that province for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the British court against our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat the hostile machinations of governor Carleton against us, but that we shall put it into the power of our Canadian brethren, to pursue such measures for securing their own freedom and happiness, as a generous love of liberty and sound policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them, that in our judgment, their interests and ours are inseparably united; that it is impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission to Great-Britain without their sharing our fate: And, on the other hand, if we shall obtain, as we doubt not we shall, a full establishment of our rights, it depends wholly on their choice, whether they will participate with us in those blessings, or still remain subject to every act of tyranny, which British ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments as your prudence shall suggest, to enforce our opinion concerning the mutual interest of the two countries, and to convince them of the impossibility of the war being concluded to the disadvantage of these colonies, if we wisely and vigorously co-operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them, you are to declare, that it is our inclination, that the people of Canada may set up such a form of government, as will be most likely, in their judgment, to produce their happiness: And you are, in the strongest terms, to assure them, that it is our earnest desire to adopt them into our union, as a sister colony, and to secure the same general system of mild and equal laws for them and for ourselves, with only such local differences as may be agreeable to each colony respectively.

Assure the people of Canada, that we have no apprehension that the French will take any part with Great-Britain; but, that it is their interest, and we have reason to believe their inclination, to cultivate a friendly intercourse with these colonies.

You are from this, and such other reasons as may appear most proper, to urge the necessity the people are under of immediately taking some decisive step, to put themselves under the protection of the United Colonies. In expediting such a measure, you are to explain to them our method of collecting the sense of the people, and conducting our affairs regularly by committees of observation and inspection in the several districts, and by conventions and committees of safety in the several colonies. Recommend these modes to them. Explain to them the nature and principles of government among freemen: developing, in contrast to those, the base, cruel, and insidious designs involved in the late act of parliament, for making a more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec. Endeavour to stimulate them by motives of glory, as well as interest, to assume a part in a contest, by which they must be deeply affected; and to aspire to a portion of that power, by which they are ruled; and not to remain the mere spoils and prey of conquerors and lords.

You are further to declare, that we hold sacred the rights of conscience, and may promise to the whole people, solemnly in our name, the free and undisturbed exercise of their religion; and, to the clergy, the full, perfect, and peaceable possession and enjoyment of all their estates; that the government of every thing relating to their religion and clergy, shall be left entirely in the hands of the good people of that province, and such legislature as they shall constitute: provided, however, that all other denominations of Christians be equally entitled to hold offices, and enjoy civil privileges, and the free exercise of their religion, and be totally exempt from the payment of any tithes or taxes for the support of any religion.

Inform them, that you are vested, by this Congress, with full powers to ef-

fect these purposes; and, therefore, press them to have a complete representation of the people assembled in convention, with all possible expedition, to deliberate concerning the establishment of a form of government, and an union with the United Colonies. As to the terms of union, insist on the propriety of their being similar to those on which the other colonies unite. Should they object to this, report to this Congress the objections, and the terms on which alone they will come into our union. Should they agree to our terms, you are to promise in the names of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the people of Canada against all enemies, in the same manner as we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

You are to establish a free press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

You are to settle all disputes between the Canadians and the continental troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto, as you shall judge proper.

You are to make a strict and impartial enquiry into the cause of the imprisonment of colonel Du Free, lieutenant colonel Neseu, major St. George Du Pree, and major Gray, officers of the militia, and of John Frazer, esq. late a judge of the police of Montreal, and take such orders concerning them as you shall judge most proper.

In reforming any abuses you may observe in Canada, establishing and enforcing regulations for preservation of peace and good order there, and composing differences between the troops of the United Colonies and the Canadians, all officers and soldiers are required to yield obedience to you; and, to enforce the decisions that you or any two of you may make, you are empowered to suspend any military officer from the exercise of his commission, till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known, if you, or any two of you, shall think it expedient.

You are also empowered to sit and vote as members of councils of war, in directing fortifications and defences to be made, or to be demolished, by land or by water; and to draw orders on the president for any sums of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars in the whole, to defray the expense of the works.

Lastly, you are by all the means you can use, to promote the execution of the resolutions now made, or hereafter to be made, in Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the following additional instructions be given to the commissioners aforesaid:

You are empowered and directed to promote and encourage the trade of Canada with the Indian nations, and to grant passports for the carrying it on as far as it may consist with the safety of the troops, and the public good.

You are also directed and authorized to assure the inhabitants of Canada, that their commerce with foreign nations shall, in all respects, be put upon an equal footing with, and encouraged and protected in the same manner, as the trade of the United Colonies.

You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the continental money in Canada.

In case the former resolution of Congress respecting the English American troops in Canada, has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavors for forming a battalion of the New-York troops in that country, and to appoint the field and other officers out of the gentlemen who have continued there during the campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit. And, if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided for in the four battalions now raising in New-York, to repair to their respective corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with blank commissions, signed by the president.

*Resolved*, That the memorial from the Indian traders, residing at Montreal, be delivered to the commissioners going to Canada.

The draught of the commission being taken into consideration, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, &c. to Benjamin Franklin, L. L. D. member of the royal academy of sciences at Paris, F. R. S. &c. &c. &c. one of the delegates of the colony of Pennsylvania ; Samuel Chase, esq. one of the delegates of the colony of Maryland, and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, esq. of the said colony of Maryland, greeting : Know ye, that we, reposing special trust and confidence in your zeal, fidelity, abilities, and assiduity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, or any two of you, commissioners for and on behalf of us, and all the people of the United Colonies, whom we represent, to promote, or to form a union between the said colonies and the people of Canada, according to the instructions herewith delivered you, and such as you may hereafter receive ; and to execute all such matters and things as you are or shall be directed by your said instructions ; and we do require all officers, soldiers, and others, who may facilitate your negotiation, or promote the success thereof, to aid and assist you therein ; and you are from time to time, to transmit and report your proceedings to Congress. This commission to continue in force till revoked by this or a future Congress.

Dated at Philadelphia, this

day of  
By order of Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Franklin, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Chase be appointed to confer with Mr. Wrixon, to examine into his military abilities, and enquire whether he is willing to engage in the service of the United Colonies, and report to Congress.

Colonel St. Clair having informed Congress that Michael Hufnagel, appointed a first-lieutenant, and James O'Hara, and Abel Morris, appointed ensigns in his battalion, have declined to accept their commissions, the committee on qualifications recommended Thomas Butler in the room of M. Hufnagel, George McCulloch in the room of James O'Hara, and George Ross in the room of Abel Morris.

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of New-Jersey be desired to remove the prisoners from Trenton, to such place or places in that colony, as may be thought convenient, at a proper distance from the sea and the post roads, subject to the regulations formerly made respecting prisoners.

*Resolved*, That all officers, prisoners, who shall refuse to subscribe the parole ordered by Congress, be committed to prison.

The committee appointed to promote the making of muskets, to whom colonel Dayton's letter respecting the quality of the arms taken by colonel Heald on Long-Island, was referred, brought in their report, which was read : Whereupon, the Congress came to the following resolution :

Whereas in the execution of the resolve of Congress of the 14th, respecting the disarming of disaffected persons, many fire-arms may be taken, which may not be fit to arm any of the troops mentioned therein : Therefore,

*Resolved*, That all the fire-arms so taken, being appraised according to said resolve, none of them shall be paid for, but those that are fit for the use of such troops, or that may conveniently be so made, and the remainder shall be safely kept by the said assemblies, conventions, councils or committees of safety, for the owners, to be delivered to them when the Congress shall direct.

The committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada with provisions and necessaries, brought in their report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A petition of John Secord was presented to Congress and read, and the consideration thereof, at the request of a colony, was deferred till to-morrow.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Abraham Hunt, for provisions, fire-wood, &c. to the prisoners at Trenton, and for horse-hire for the public service, the sum of 607.6 dollars:

To Ephraim Blaine, esq. for necessaries furnished the rifle companies, the sum of 129.7 dollars; of which sum, 44.3 dollars are to be charged to captain Hendricks, and 65 dollars to captain Chambers:

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to one of the rifle companies, the sum of 122.5 dollars, of which sum 101.4 dollars, being for rifles, &c. furnished to captain Cluggage's company, to be charged to said company; the amount of the certificates to be paid to Bernard Dougherty, esq.

To William Bausman, for provisions, &c. furnished the prisoners in Lancaster, the sum of 1528.8 dollars:

To the committee of Frederick, the sum of 52.7 dollars, to be paid to Thomas Johnson, esq.:

To Francis Lee, for 483 meals dieting of general Lee's guard, the sum of 48.3 dollars:

To Conrad Ulster, for 185 meals dieting the said men, 19 dollars:

To Mary Bryant, for 288 meals dieting the said men, 28 dollars:

To Ann Todd, for 158 meals dieting the said men, the sum of 15.8 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *March 21, 1776.*

A letter of the 7th from general Schuyler, with a return of the forces before Quebec, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to send an account of the troops in his camp, who are deficient in arms, to the several assemblies or conventions of the colonies, to which those men belong; and request them to send a sufficient number of arms for the men coming from the respective colonies, and that, if arms cannot be procured, such as have not arms be dismissed the service.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to employ some trusty persons in each county, to purchase as many good muskets as will be sufficient to arm the battalions raised in said colony; and that they exert their utmost diligence in procuring the said arms speedily, and on the most reasonable terms; that an order for 12,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of said committee, to pay for the arms, the said committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 600 dollars be sent to colonel Charles Stuart, and that he be desired to muster captain Woolverton's company, and when he finds them properly armed, accoutred, and ready to march, to furnish them with necessaries, and expedite their march to New-York, agreeable to the orders of Congress; Mr. Stuart to be accountable for the money put into his hands.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur le chevalier de St. Aulaire be permitted to raise an independent company of rangers in Canada, with the pay of a captain, or, in case he shall not be able to raise such a company, that he be recommended to the commanding officer in Canada, to be employed in such service there as may be thought suitable to his genius and ability.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, and committees of correspondence and inspection, that they exert their utmost endeavors to promote the culture of hemp, flax, and cotton, and the growth of wool in these United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the said assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, that they take the earliest measures for erecting and establishing, in each and every colony a society for the improvement of

agriculture, arts, manufactures, and commerce, and to maintain a correspondence between such societies, that the rich and numerous natural advantages of this country, for supporting its inhabitants, may not be neglected :

That it be recommended to the said assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety, that they forthwith consider of ways and means of introducing the manufactures of duck and sail cloth, and steel, into such colonies where they are not now understood, and of encouraging, increasing and improving them where they are.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to superintend the printing the journals of Congress ; and that, if the present printer cannot execute the work with sufficient expedition, they be empowered to employ another printer.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Allen.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *March 22*, 1776.

A letter of the 13th from general Washington, enclosing the proceedings of a council of war, also a letter from lord Sterling, of the 19th, were laid before Congress and read.

A petition from Thorowgood Smith, and others, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth, that they have procured a vessel, and raised money to fit her out as a privateer, in order to cruize and guard the coast of Virginia, and praying that a commission be granted to William Shippen, to whom they propose to give the command of said vessel ; and farther, that the Congress will grant them a small quantity of powder, upon their making satisfaction for the same :

*Resolved*, That a commission be granted to William Shippen, as captain of the above-mentioned vessel, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell capt. William Shippen 300lb. of powder, for the use of his vessel.

The committee appointed to prepare a declaration pursuant to certain resolutions, brought in a draught, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the petition of John Secord be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Penn, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

On account of expenses in conveying powder, the sum of 8.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Morton, esq.

To Matthias Slough, for provisions furnished the prisoners in Lancaster, the sum of 226.8 dollars.

To Ephraim Blaine, for sundry articles omitted in the account of expenses at the treaty with the Indians at Pittsburg, the sum of 90.5 dollars.

To sundries on certificates for necessities furnished to captain Stevenson's company in Virginia, the sum of 58.3 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlack, of which 14.7 dollars, being for a rifle, to be charged to captain Stevenson.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 750 dollars be advanced to the baron de Woedtk, he to be accountable out of his pay.

*Resolved*, That the rank of all such officers in the continental army as held similar commissions in that service, before the term of their late appointment expired, be settled by the dates of their former, and not their present commissions.

The assembly of the counties on Delaware, having recommended a gentleman to be major of the battalion ordered to be raised in that colony, in the room of John M'Pherson, jun. esq. who fell before Quebec, and never received his

commission, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken and examined,

Thomas M'Donnough was elected.

*Resolved*, That an order for 12,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the committee of safety of Delaware government, for the use of the battalion raised in that colony, the said committee to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the declaration brought in by the committee, and after debate, the further consideration thereof, at the request of a colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the secretary publish the substance of the letters received from the camp at Cambridge.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to dispose of the coal on board the Blue-Mountain Valley, in such manner as they shall judge most for the benefit of the United Colonies.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### SATURDAY, *March 23*, 1776.

A letter from James Young was laid before Congress and read, requesting that his son John, who eloped from him last January, and got on board the Phoenix ship of war, but is now fortunately a prisoner in New-York, may be permitted, on his parole, to reside at the estate of his late grandfather, Dr. Græme:

*Resolved*, That Mr. Young's request be granted.

A letter from lord Sterling, of the 18th, enclosing a letter from William De Hart, and a letter from the captains and subalterns of the first New-Jersey battalion: also,

A memorial from Thomas Scott, of Hunterdon, desiring that he may be appointed a captain of a company of rangers: and,

A letter from S. Badlam, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to the committee on qualifications.

*Resolved*, That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Thomas Lowry, commissary, for the use of the New-Jersey battalions, he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Peter Scull to be a brigade-major in the army of the United Colonies in the middle department:

Joseph Davenport to be a captain, in the third Pennsylvania battalion, in the room of Mr. Scull;

Evan Edwards to be a captain in said battalion, in the room of Mr. Alice, who has resigned;

William Tilton to be a first lieutenant in said battalion, in the room of Evan Edwards;

Garret Steddiford to be an ensign in the said battalion;

And having also recommended the following persons for colonel Irvine's Battalion, viz:

Robert Wilson to be a first-lieutenant, in the room of William M'Clelland resigned;

John Alexander to be a first lieutenant, in the room of Robert White resigned.

Andrew Irvine, a second lieutenant, in the room of John Alexander:

—— Neeper, an ensign in the room of John Murray, who has resigned;

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3200 dollars, in specie, be advanced to Mr. Cole, to be by him delivered to the commanding officer in Canada, for the service of the continent, and that he be desired to proceed thither immediately.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. Jonathan Potts, for attendance on the second and fourth Pennsylvania battalions, the sum of 67.6 dollars.

To colonel Nathaniel Heard, for expenses in the expedition against the tories on Long-Island, the sum of 2161.6 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the declaration, which was agreed to as follows :

Whereas the petitions of the United Colonies to the king, for the redress of great and manifold grievances, have not only been rejected, but treated with scorn and contempt, and the opposition to designs evidently formed to reduce them to a state of servile subjection, and their necessary defence against hostile forces actually employed to subdue them, declared rebellion ; and whereas an unjust war hath been commenced against them, which the commanders of the British fleets and armies have prosecuted, and still continue to prosecute, with their utmost vigor ; and in a cruel manner, wasting, spoiling, and destroying the country, burning houses and defenceless towns, and exposing the helpless inhabitants to every misery, from the inclemency of the winter ; and not only urging savages to invade the country, but instigating negroes to murder their masters ; and whereas the parliament of Great-Britain hath lately passed an act, affirming these colonies to be in open rebellion, forbidding all trade and commerce with the inhabitants thereof, until they shall accept pardons, and submit to despotic rule, declaring their property, wherever found upon the water, liable to seizure and confiscation, and enacting, that what had been done there by virtue of the royal authority, were just and lawful acts, and shall be so deemed ; from all which it is manifest, that the iniquitous scheme, concerted to deprive them of the liberty they have a right to by the laws of nature and the English constitution, will be pertinaciously pursued : It being therefore necessary to provide for their defence and security, and justifiable to make reprisals upon their enemies, and otherwise to annoy them, according to the laws and usages of nations, the Congress, trusting that such of their friends in Great-Britain (of whom it is confessed there are many entitled to applause and gratitude for their patriotism and benevolence, and in whose favor a discrimination of property cannot be made) as shall suffer by captures, will impute it to the authors of our common calamities, do Declare and Resolve, as followeth, to wit :

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of these colonies be permitted to fit out armed vessels to cruize on the enemies of these United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great-Britain, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, by any armed vessel, fitted out by any private person or persons, and to whom commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any court erected for the trial of maritime affairs, in any of these colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful prize ; and after deducting and paying the wages which the seamen and mariners on board of such captures, as are merchant ships and vessels, shall be entitled to, according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of the adjudication, shall be condemned to and for the use of the owner or owners, and the officers, marines, and mariners of such armed vessel, according to such rules and proportions as they shall agree on : Provided always, that this resolution shall not extend to any vessel bringing settlers, arms, ammunition or war-like stores to and for the use of these colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the American cause, or to such war-like stores, or to the effects of such settlers.

*Resolved*, That all ships or vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant of Great-Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the vessels of war of these United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited ; one-third, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and marines as aforesaid, to the officers and men on board, and two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies.

**Resolved,** That all ships or vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitants of Great-Britain as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any vessel of war fitted out by and at the expense of any of the United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners, as aforesaid, in such manner and proportions as the assembly or convention of such colony shall direct.

**Resolved,** That all vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of Great Britain, as aforesaid, and all vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the ministerial armies, which shall happen to be taken near the shores of any of these colonies, by the people of the country, or detachments from the army, shall be deemed lawful prize; and the court of admiralty within the said colony is required, on condemnation thereof, to adjudge that all charges and expenses which may attend the capture and trial, be first paid out of the monies arising from the sales of the prize, and the remainder equally among all those, who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said prize. Provided, that where any detachments of the army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the prize-money shall be distributed among them in proportion to the pay of the officers and soldiers so employed.

**Resolved,** That a committee of five be appointed to consider of the fortifying one or more ports on the American coast, in the strongest manner, for the protection of our cruizers, and the reception of their prizes; that they take the opinion of the best engineers on the manner and expense, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Hewes, Mr. R. Morris, and Mr. Whipple.

**Resolved,** That the commissioners appointed to go to Canada, or any two of them, be empowered, if they think it necessary for the service of the United Colonies, to raise a number of independent companies, not exceeding six, and to appoint the officers; that they also be empowered to fill up all vacancies that may happen in the army of the United Colonies in Canada, while they are there.

**Resolved,** That 1066 2-3 dollars, in continental money, over and above the 1600 dollars to be paid them in specie, be advanced to the commissioners going to Canada, to defray their expenses, they to render an account.

**Resolved,** That 400 dollars, in specie, be paid to Mr. Walker in full for so much by him lent to gen. Wooster, for the use of the army in Canada, and that gen. Wooster's note be taken up and cancelled.

**Resolved,** That this Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies; and that sundry motions offered by the members from Massachusetts-Bay, Maryland, and Virginia, be referred to said committee.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, *March 25*, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read:

One from general Washington of the 19th, wherein he informs Congress, that on the 17th, the enemy evacuated Boston, and our troops took possession of it:

One from general Schuyler of the 12th:

One from lord Sterling of the 21st; and,

One from the committee of safety of New-Jersey.

**Resolved,** That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the thirteen United Colonies, whom they represent, be presented to his excellency gen. Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his com-

mand, for their wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston; and that a medal of gold be struck in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his excellency; and that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks, and a proper device for the medal.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Hopkins.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. Dugan, and colonel Ritzema.

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, M. Johnson, and Mr. Allen.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Virginia, for the use of the battalions in that colony; the said delegates to account for the expenditure thereof.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the colonies in the southern department, brought in their report, which was read as follows:

“That it appears highly probable that a very considerable force will be exerted in that department by our enemies early this spring; that the continental forces employed in South-Carolina, and Virginia, respectively, cannot presently be solely relied on, for the defence of those colonies; that South-Carolina and Virginia are at a very great separate expense in armed vessels, rendered absolutely necessary by the situation and circumstances of those countries; that the militia of South-Carolina are obliged to perform a very laborious duty, which, from the smallness of their number, and the consequent quick rotation, is excessively burthensome; and that the colony of Virginia, in addition to the six continental battalions already there, have resolved to raise, and are now embodying, three other battalions: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the convention or council of safety of South-Carolina be permitted to raise and embody two other battalions, and that they be on the pay and at the expense of the continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered:

That the three colonial battalions of Virginia be also on the pay and at the expense of the continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered:

That the contracts made by the council of safety of Virginia for the subsistence of the third battalion in that colony, at six pence half-penny a ration, of the fifth at eight pence, and of the second, fourth, seventh, eighth, and ninth, at seven pence half-penny a ration, be confirmed.

*Resolved*, That a deputy muster-master general be appointed for the southern department.

The ballots being taken and examined,

Edmund Randolph esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That E. Randolph, esq. be empowered to appoint two deputy muster-masters under him, one for North-Carolina, and the other for South-Carolina and Georgia.

*Resolved*, That the order of the day be postponed.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on the ways and means of supplying the troops in Canada with provisions and necessaries: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be directed to take such order respecting the supplies of provisions necessary for the troops in Canada, as he may deem expedient.

The Congress, being of opinion that the reduction of Quebec, and the general security of the province of Canada, are objects of great concern,

*Ordered*, That general Washington be directed to detach four battalions into Canada, from the army under his command, as soon as he shall be of opinion that the safety of New-York and the eastern service will permit.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *March 26, 1776.*

The Congress being informed that Mr. Ward, one of the delegates of Rhode-Island, died yesterday,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, in a body, attend the funeral of Mr. Ward, to-morrow, with a crape round the arm, and will continue in mourning for the space of one month.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hopkins, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Wolcott, be a committee to superintend the funeral, and that they be directed to apply to the rev. Mr. Stillman, and request him to preach a funeral sermon on the occasion :

That the said committee be directed to invite the assembly and committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and other public bodies in Philadelphia, to attend the funeral.

*Resolved*, That the privates of the companies ordered from Maryland to Accomac and Northampton, be allowed the pay of the privates in the southern department, which is 6 2-3 dollars per calendar month.

*Resolved*, That if the convention or council of safety of North-Carolina shall judge it necessary for the common safety to raise one or two more battalions, the same, when armed fit for service and mustered, be taken into the pay of the continent.

*Resolved*, That commodore Douglass be ordered immediately to repair to the lakes, and take the command of the vessels on that station.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Thursday.

THURSDAY, *March 28, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of William Barrel, of Philadelphia, in full for tent-cloth sent by him to colonel Mifflin, for the use of the army under the command of general Washington; the money being paid in consequence of the general's letter of the 13th; to be charged to the account of the general.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to purchase, on the most reasonable terms they can, the ship Molly, for the use of the continent, and to fit her out, with all possible expedition, to join captain Barry, on his cruize along the coast, between New-York and Virginia.

A memorial of Thomas Walker of Canada was presented to Congress, and read :

Two letters, of the 27th, from the committee of safety of New-Jersey, were read :

*Resolved*, That the president return an answer, and inform the committee of safety of New-Jersey, that the Congress see no reason to alter or countermand the requisition of the 15th, and that, therefore, they be requested to expedite the march of the troops to New-York, agreeable to the requisition of the commanding officer.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a colonel of the third battalion ordered to be raised in the colony of New-York; and, the ballots being taken, Rudolphus Ritzema was elected.

The committee appointed to confer with colonel Ritzema and Mr. Dugan, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. Jeremiah Dugan, as a reward for his services in Canada.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Jeremiah Dugan be appointed a major, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, to command a body of three hundred rangers.

That the said rangers be divided into three companies, each to consist of one hundred men, and to be commanded by a captain and two lieutenants: That the captains and lieutenants be recommended by lieutenant-colonel Dugan to the commissioners going to Canada for their approbation; and that, if they approve the gentlemen recommended, they grant them commissions.

*Resolved*, That Mr. William Finney be appointed a deputy quarter-master in the southern department.

*Resolved*, That two engineers be employed for the southern department.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

Information being given to Congress that some prisoners in the gaol of Philadelphia have meditated an escape, and are near carrying their plan into execution:

*Resolved*, That the gaoler be directed to confine John Connolly, J. Smith, and Moses Kirkland, in separate apartments, and suffer no person to converse with any of them, without special orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia be directed, by Mr. M'Kean, to call to his assistance a guard of fifty men from the barracks for the defence of the gaol; and that the sheriff be farther directed to keep secret any intimation given him of a design to rescue his prisoners, and to employ every means to discover and apprehend those concerned in such design.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. Samuel Fairlamb, for the use of the fourth Pennsylvania battalion, he to be accountable.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *March 29, 1776.*

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read:

Two from general Schuyler, of the 19th and 21st, with a copy of the treaty held with the Indians at Albany, &c.

One from the convention of New-York, of the 26th:

One from Allan M'Donald.

*Resolved*, That the letter from Allan M'Donald be referred to the committee on prisoners.

That the other letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to Mr. William Henry, and Co. 15 lbs. of powder, to prove the muskets he has contracted to make for the continent.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the means of supplying the troops in Canada: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a deputy commissary-general of stores and provisions be appointed for the army of the United Colonies in Canada.

The ballots being taken and examined,

Mr. J. Price was elected.

*Resolved*, That the last paragraph of the report be recommitted for further enquiry and examination.

A letter from the committee of safety of New-Jersey, and one from captain John Macpherson, were received, and read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *March 30, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That 60 dollars be advanced to captain Arundel, to be deducted out of his pay, and that he be directed immediately to repair to the southern department, and put himself under the command of general Lee.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Dechambault, and his companion, be permitted to come to Philadelphia and transact his business, and then return to Bristol.

The Congress proceeded to the election of two engineers for the southern department; and, the ballots being taken,

John Stadler and Monsieur Massenback were elected.

The Congress took into consideration the letter from the committee of safety of New-Jersey: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the minute-men employed by Congress under the command of colonel Heard, in the expedition to Long-Island, be allowed, while on that service, the same pay and rations as the continental troops in the middle department.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of New-York prepare an answer to the committee of safety of New-Jersey, and assign the reasons of the foregoing resolution.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To William Tricket, for stationary, the sum of 41.7 dollars:

To Philip Apricht for provisions to general Lee's guard, the sum of 4.7 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Adam Kimmel:

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to the rifle companies, the sum of 42.2 dollars, and that 2.5 dollars, part of said sum, be charged to captain Cressop's company.

To sundries on certificates for rifles, shirts, &c. furnished to captain Clugage's company, the sum of 81.1 dollars, which ought to be paid to John Montgomery, esq. and charged to said company.

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, on an account now settled, the sum of 409.3 dollars.

To Sacheverel Wood, for provisions furnished by him to several prisoners in the gaol of Philadelphia, the sum of 137.6 dollars:

To Thomas Dewees, for provisions for Connolly, Cameron, Smith, and Kirkland, the sum of 57.8 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee appointed to confer with major Wrixon, brought in their report, which was read:

*Resolved*, That each regimental surgeon be allowed a mate:

That the pay of a surgeon's mate be 18 dollars a month.

*Resolved*, That suitable chirurgical instruments be purchased with each medicine chest.

*Resolved*, That each brigadier-general, when on command, be empowered to appoint a brigade-major.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

### MONDAY, April 1, 1776.

*Resolved*, That captain D. Arundel be allowed 48.5 dollars, in full for pay and subsistence from the 8th of February, the time he was recommended to general Schuyler, to the 19th of March, when he received his commission.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to advance captain Romans one month's pay for himself and the officers and men of his company, and also subsistence money to Albany.

The committee to whom the petition of captain White-Eyes was referred, brought in their report, which was read:

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The Congress having, on the 17th of February last, appointed a standing committee for superintending the treasury, with power, among other things, to employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the public accounts; and the said resolutions not being sufficiently explicit, with respect to the manner and place of settling those accounts, and it being a matter of great consequence, that the public accounts should be regularly stated and kept, and justly liquidated and settled;

*Resolved*, therefore, That a treasury-office of accounts be instituted and established, and that such office be kept in the city or place, where Congress shall, from time to time, be assembled and hold their sessions:



That the said office of accounts be under the direction and superintendence of the standing committee for the treasury :

That an auditor-general, and a competent number of assistants and clerks, be appointed by Congress, and employed, for stating, arranging, and keeping the public accounts :

That all accounts and claims against the United Colonies, for services or supplies, where the rates or prices have not been ascertained by Congress, shall be presented to the committee of claims, liquidated by them, and reported to and allowed by Congress, previous to their being passed at the treasury-office ; that all other accounts and claims, consisting of articles, the price or value of which shall have previously been fixed by contract, or otherwise ascertained by Congress, shall be liquidated and settled at the treasury-office, and reported for the allowance of Congress, by the committee for superintending the treasury, and then passed and entered at the treasury-office.

That all contracts, securities, and obligations, for the use and benefit of the United Colonies, shall be lodged and kept in the treasury-office of accounts ; and that all persons to whom public monies have been or shall be advanced or paid, shall be charged with the same in the books of the said office, for which every warrant on the treasury, which shall issue after the said office shall be opened, shall, previous to its being paid, be entered at the treasury-office, and the entry certified on the warrant, by one of the committee on the treasury, the auditor-general, or one of his assistants or clerks ; provided, however, that all orders or warrants issued by committees appointed and authorized by Congress to draw on the treasurers for particular purposes, shall be paid and charged to the account of the said committee respectively, until they shall settle and have their accounts passed by Congress, when the debits against them shall be discharged in the treasury-office, by such credits as Congress shall agree to and allow :

That all assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, commissaries, pay-masters, and others, entrusted with public monies, shall, within a reasonable time, after being called upon for that purpose by the committee of the treasury, produce their accounts and vouchers at the treasury office, in order to their being settled and adjusted in the manner before directed :

That the committee for superintending the treasury shall be authorized to apply to the commanding officers and others, in the continental service, for such materials and information, as the committee may judge to be useful, for stating, explaining, or checking the public accounts, in order to their being fairly and justly settled :

That the auditor-general and his assistants or clerks, before entering upon their offices, shall, respectively, take an oath, to be administered by one or more of the committee of the treasury-office (a certificate whereof shall be filed in the treasury-office) well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them, as auditor, assistant, or clerk, (as the case may be,) of the office of accounts, established by Congress, according to the best of their skill and judgment, and to disclose no matter, the knowledge of which shall be acquired in consequence of such their office, which they shall be directed to keep secret :

That the committee for superintending the treasury shall be authorized to hire suitable places, and procure books of accounts and other necessities at the public expense, for the establishing and doing the business of the said office.

*Resolved*, That major James Hewes, a prisoner at Elizabethtown, be allowed and ordered to come to Philadelphia for the benefit of his health, and there to wait on the committee for prisoners, and take their directions with respect to the place of his future residence.

*Resolved*, That Mr. McKean and Mr. Paine be directed to examine the goal of Philadelphia, and particularly the apartments where Kirkland, Connolly, Smith and Cameron are confined, and report what is necessary to be done to have them safely and securely kept.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with James M'Knight, and examine his account, and the nature of his claim, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. De Hart.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Jacob Kemper, jun. to be appointed an ensign in captain Howell's company in the first New-Jersey battalion, in the room of Cyprus De Hart, who has resigned,

**Resolved**, That he be appointed, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

**Resolved**, That the president, in his next letter to general Schuyler, desire him to send an account of the lead at Ticonderoga.

A letter from Alexander M'Donnald, George Gillespie, and J. W. Saunders, of the 19th of March, was presented to Congress and read :

**Resolved**, That it be referred to Mr. R. Morris, Mr. M'Kean, and Mr. De Hart.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, April 2, 1776.

A letter from general Washington, of the 24th of March, with five papers enclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a commission, and instructions to commanders of private ships of war, brought in the same, which were read.

The commission, being agreed to, is as follows :

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, &c. to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we have granted, and, by these presents, do grant, license and authority to \_\_\_\_\_ mariner, commander of the \_\_\_\_\_ called \_\_\_\_\_ of the burden of \_\_\_\_\_ tons, or thereabouts, belonging to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the colony of \_\_\_\_\_ mounting \_\_\_\_\_ carriage guns, and navigated by \_\_\_\_\_ men, to fit out and set forth the said \_\_\_\_\_ in a warlike manner, and by and with the said \_\_\_\_\_ and the crew thereof, by force of arms, to attack, seize and take the ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, or any of them, with their tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, on the high seas, or between high and low water marks, and to bring the same to some convenient ports in the said colonies, in order that the courts which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes, civil and maritime, may proceed, in due form, to condemn the said captures, if they be adjudged lawful prize; the said \_\_\_\_\_ having given bond, with sufficient sureties, that nothing be done by the said \_\_\_\_\_ or any of the officers, mariners, or company thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the usages and customs of nations, and the instructions, a copy of which is herewith delivered to him. And we will and require all our officers whatsoever to give succor and assistance to the said \_\_\_\_\_ in the premises. This commission shall continue in force until the Congress shall issue orders to the contrary.

By order of Congress.

Attest,

*President.*

The Congress then took into consideration the draught of instructions; and, after some time spent thereon,

**Resolved**, That it be recommitted, and that it be an instruction to the committee, to fill up the blanks in said draught as they shall think best.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter of thanks to general Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, brought in a draught, which was read and agreed to :

**Ordered**, That it be transcribed, signed by the president, and forwarded.

The committee on prisoners, to whom the letter from M. Belletre, of the 16th

of March last, was referred, brought in their report, which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3,400 dollars be advanced by the treasurers to M. Belletre, on his delivering to them his bills of exchange for the like sum, payable in gold or silver in the province of Canada.

A petition from William Lindsay being presented to Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That colonel Wayne be directed to discharge Robert, the son of said William Lindsay, inlisted in his battalion.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, April 3, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, of the 24th of March, with the papers enclosed, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wilson.

A memorial and petition from captain John Nelson was presented to Congress and read; also,

A petition from P. Moore, in behalf of the owners of the sloops Congress and Chance privateers, was presented and read:

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell said owners 400 lbs. of powder for the use of their privateers.

The committee of claims, to whom the account of Messrs. Price and Haywood was referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That there be advanced to Messrs. Price and Haywood, the sum of 64,358.6 dollars on account of supplies to the army in Canada, to be accounted for on the settlement of their accounts; and that general Wooster be directed to forward the accounts and vouchers lodged in his hands.

The said committee farther reported, that there is due,

To the township of Montague, in the county of Sussex, in New-Jersey, for slay-hire, in forwarding the prisoners from Canada, under the command of captain Brasher, the sum of 45 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Nicholas Christopher.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A letter from H. Fisher, of Lewistown, to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, together with a resolve of said committee, being laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of the battalion raised in Delaware government, be directed to send two companies of said battalion to Lewistown, there to remain in the service of the continent till farther orders.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed and empowered to fit out, with all expedition, two armed cutters, for the service of the continent.

*Resolved*, That blank commissions for private ships of war and letters of marque and reprisal, signed by the president, be sent to the general assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the persons intending to fit out such private ships of war, for making captures of British vessels and cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the bonds which shall be sent with the said commissions, which bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That every person intending to set forth and fit out a private ship or vessel of war, and applying for a commission or letters of marque and reprisal for that purpose, shall produce a writing subscribed by him, containing the name and tonnage or burden of the ship or vessel, the number of her guns, with their weight of metal, the name and place of residence of the owner or owners, the names of the commander and other officers, the number of the crew, and the quantity of provisions and war-like stores; which writing shall be delivered to the secretary of Congress, or to the clerk of the house of re-

presentatives, convention, or council, or committee of safety of the colony in which the ship or vessel shall be, to be transmitted to the said secretary, and shall be registered by him; and that the commander of the ship or vessel, before the commission or letters of marque and reprisal may be granted, shall, together with sureties, seal and deliver a bond, in the penalty of five thousand dollars, if the vessel be of one hundred tons or under, or ten thousand dollars, if of a greater burden, payable to the president of the Congress, in trust for the use of the United Colonies, with condition in the form following, to wit: "The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden , who is commander of the , called , belonging to , of , in the colony of , mounting carriage guns, and navigated by men, and who hath applied for a commission, and letters of marque and reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to sea, the said as a private ship of war, and to make captures of British vessels and cargoes, shall not exceed or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in the said commission, but shall, in all things, observe and conduct himself, and govern his crew, by and according to the same, and certain instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself, or the officers or crew of the said ; then this obligation shall be void, or else remain in force;" which bond shall be lodged with the said secretary of Congress.

The committee to whom the instructions to the commanders of private ships or vessels of war, were recommitted, brought in a report, which being taken into consideration, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

Instructions to the commanders of private ships or vessels of war, which shall have commissions or letters of marque and reprisal, authorizing them to make captures of British vessels and cargoes.

1. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Great-Britain, on the high seas, or between high water and low water marks, except ships and vessels bringing persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies; or bringing arms, ammunition, or war-like stores, to the said colonies, for the use of such inhabitants thereof as are friends to the American cause, which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search, and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the loadings, and destinations of the voyages.

2. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels whatsoever, carrying soldiers, arms, gunpowder, ammunition, provisions, or any other contraband goods, to any of the British armies or ships of war employed against these colonies.

3. You shall bring such ships and vessels, as you shall take, with their guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, furniture, and loadings, to some convenient port or ports of the United Colonies, that proceedings may thereupon be had, in due form, before the courts, which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes civil and maritime.

4. You, or one of your chief officers, shall bring or send the master and pilot, and one or more principal person or persons of the company of every ship or vessel by you taken, as soon after the capture as may be, to the judge or judges of such court as aforesaid, to be examined upon oath, and make answer to the interrogatories which may be propounded, touching the interest or property of the ship or vessel, and her lading; and, at the same time, you shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the judge or judges, all passes, sea-briefs, charter-parties, bills of lading, cockets, letters, and other documents and writings found on board, proving the said papers, by the affidavit of yourself, or of some other person present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction or embezzlement.

5. You shall keep and preserve every ship or vessel, and cargo, by you taken, until they shall, by a sentence of a court properly authorized, be adjudged lawful prizes; not selling, spoiling, wasting, or diminishing the same, or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

6. If you, or any of your officers or crew, shall, in cold blood, kill or maim, or by torture or otherwise, cruelly, inhumanly, and, contrary to common usage, and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person or persons surprized in the ship or vessel you shall take, the offender shall be severely punished.

7. You shall, by all convenient opportunities, send to Congress written accounts of the captures you shall make, with the number and names of the captives, copies of your journal from time to time, and intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destination, motions, and operations of their fleets and armies.

8. One-third, at least, of your whole company shall be landmen.

9. You shall not ransom any prisoners or captives, but shall dispose of them in such manner, as the Congress, or, if that be not sitting, in the colony whither they shall be brought, as the general assembly, convention, or council, or committee of safety, of such colony shall direct.

10. You shall observe all such further instructions as Congress shall hereafter give in the premises, when you shall have notice thereof.

11. If you shall do any thing contrary to these instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such thing to be done, you shall not only forfeit your commission, and be liable to an action for the breach of the condition of your bond, but be responsible to the party grieved for damages sustained by such malversation.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of James Mease, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the auditor of accounts be at the rate of one thousand and sixty-six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar per annum.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, April 4, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be directed to take colonel Belletre's bill drawn on some of his friends or correspondents in Canada, and not upon general Carleton.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To John De Hart, for provisions furnished by Archibald Campbell, the sum of 17.9 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

*Resolved*, That an order for one hundred dollars be drawn on the treasury in favor of Mons. Le Fontaine, for his services in Canada.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies, and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matters referred to them, and had come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to deliver in.

The resolutions agreed to by the committee of the whole Congress being read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the memorial from James M'Knight, and the letter from Alexander M'Donnald, George Gillespie, and J. W. Saunders, brought in their report, which was read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection and observation of the county of Burlington, be requested to make sale of the sloop Sally, whereof the said James M'Knight was prize-master, and which was lately run ashore by him, within the said county, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo on board, at public auction ; and after deducting the charges of securing and selling the same, to pay one moiety of the surplus to the said James M'Knight for salvage, and retain the other moiety thereof for the owner or owners.

That Messrs. Alexander M'Donnald, George Gillespie, and J. W. Saunders, who have lately come into the colony of New-Jersey from the British West-India islands, where, and in Great-Britain, they have considerable property remaining, be excused from entering into the militia of the said colony, and from signing the association ; provided always, that they be, in all other respects, subject to the like taxes and regulations with the other inhabitants of the said colony.

The committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the army in Canada, brought in a farther report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 53 dollars be advanced to Mons. St. Aulaire, to be deducted out of his pay.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Saturday.

#### SATURDAY, April 6, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply captain Romans with twenty-four muskets for the use of his company.

That the said committee be directed to deliver to colonel St. Clair six lbs. of powder and four pounds of lead, for the use of the rifle company of his battalion.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole ; and the same being twice read, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That any goods, wares, or merchandise, except staves and empty casks, other than shaken or knocked down casks for molasses, may be exported from the thirteen United Colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the king of Great-Britain, to any parts of the world which are not under the dominion of the said king ; provided, that no vessel be permitted to export any greater number of shaken or knocked down molasses casks, than the same vessel is capable of carrying when they shall be filled with molasses.

*Resolved*, That any goods, wares, and merchandises, except such as are of the growth, production, or manufacture of, or brought from any country under the dominion of the king of Great-Britain, and except East-India tea, may be imported from any other parts of the world to the thirteen United Colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the said king ; liable, however, to all such duties and impositions as now are, or may hereafter be laid by any of the said colonies.

*Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future commercial regulations as shall be thought just and necessary by these United Colonies, or their respective legislatures.

*Resolved*, That no slaves be imported into any of the thirteen United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions in the several colonies, to appoint proper officers, at convenient places in their respective colonies, to take bonds, in adequate penalties, for observing the regulations

made by the Congress, or assemblies, or conventions, concerning trade, and for securing the observation of such parts of the association as are not inconsistent therewith; and that the obligor shall, within eighteen months after the departure of the vessel, produce to such officers a certificate, under the hands and seals of three or more reputable merchants, residing at the port or place where the cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unladed, and take manifests upon oath, of the cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair accounts and entries thereof, give bills of health when desired, grant registers shewing the property of the vessels cleared out, and sign certificates that the requisites for qualifying vessels to trade have been complied with: And that the fees of the said officers be stated by the respective assemblies or conventions: Provided always, that no prosecution upon any of the said bonds shall be commenced but within three years after the date thereof.

*Resolved*, That all goods, wares, and merchandises, except such as are made prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from Great-Britain or Ireland, into any of these United Colonies, contrary to the regulations established by Congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of, agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several assemblies or conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any court erected, or to be erected, for the determination of maritime affairs, in the colony where the seizure shall be made.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution for disposing of and using the tea now in these colonies:

The members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Jay, and Mr. M'Kean.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for William M'Carty's and Richard Ker's teams, to Virginia, with powder, each thirty days, and ferriages, the sum of 250.5 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The committee to whom the letters from general Schuyler, of the 7th and 19th, and from W. Paulding, esq. chairman of a committee of the convention of New-York, of the 26th of March last, were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection and observation of Albany be desired to examine, state and settle the accounts of expenses incurred in the taking of Ticonderoga and Crown-Point, which shall be laid before them by general Schuyler, and report the same to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affair in the northern department be desired to assure the Indians that Congress will do every thing in their power to procure goods for them, and hope they shall soon accomplish it.

*Resolved*, That Robert Yates be appointed secretary to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department, and be allowed at the rate of two hundred and fifty dollars by the year.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be postponed.

A letter from general Washington of the 27th of March, and

A letter from brigadier general Heath, being received and read,

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, with the papers enclosed, be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 100,000 dollars be sent to New-York, for the use of the army there, in the service of the United Colonies.

The committee for prisoners brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of Virginia be directed to write to their convention, or committee or council of safety, to collect and forward to the treasury of the United Colonies, what gold and silver they can procure, and to draw on the president for the amount thereof, at the rate of eight dollars for half-jeas weighing nine pennyweight.

The committee on qualifications, having recommended Samuel Checkley, as a proper person to fill a vacancy of an ensign in the third Pennsylvania battalion :

*Ordered*, That a commission be granted to the said Samuel Checkley accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, *April 9*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 200,000 dollars be sent to New-York, for the use of the continental forces there.

A list of prisoners brought from Canada by major Zedwitz, and a letter of the 4th from John Nelson, chairman of the committee of Brunswick, respecting prisoners brought to that place ; also, a letter from colonel Haslet, of the Delaware battalion, being laid before Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

A letter of the 5th, from captain Brice, a prisoner at Brunswick, was presented to Congress and read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That captain Brice be permitted to come to Philadelphia, in order to consult a physician, and there wait the orders of Congress.

A letter of the 6th of March, from brigadier-general Wooster, and a letter of the 26th of the same month from general Schuyler, were laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an auditor-general, and the ballots being taken and examined,

John Gibson, esq. was elected.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on prisoners : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That captain Thomas Gamble be not exchanged, there being no cartel settled.

*Resolved*, That captain Duncan Campbell be permitted to reside with his wife and family in the city of Burlington, in New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That the committee on prisoners be directed to write to general Schuyler, and take his opinion whether Allan M'Donald, and the other hostages taken in Tryon county, may, consistent with the public safety, be permitted to return to their respective homes on their parole.

*Resolved*, That a list of the prisoners of war in each colony be made out and transmitted to the house of assembly, convention, council, or committee of safety of such colony respectively, and that they be authorized and requested to cause a strict observance of the terms on which such prisoners have been enlarged, and also to take especial care that none of those confined by order of Congress, be suffered to escape ; and also, that the allowance to each prisoner be punctually paid by the president of the convention, or of the council or committee of safety of the colony in which he resides ; and where there are no conventions, by the speakers of assembly, which said presidents or speakers are hereby authorized, from time to time, to draw for the sums advanced in pursuance of this resolution, upon the president of Congress.

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Prescott, upon subscribing the parole ordered, be enlarged from his present confinement.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Lewis Nicola, for repairs done at the old gaol in this city, fitted up for the reception of troops, the sum of 226 dollars :

To Joseph Page, for his service in attending the powder-wagons to Virginia, the sum of 55 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Benjamin Harrison, esq.

To Jacob Garrigues, for transcribing minutes, letters, &c. for Congress, the sum of 48.2 dollars :

To John Bruce, for 402 tin cartouch-boxes, the sum of 174.2 dollars:

To John Armer and Samuel Allen, for bringing baggage, &c. belonging to Messrs. Dulhunt and Gamilli, from New-York to Philadelphia, the sum of 21 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Samuel Allen:

To sundry persons, for horse hire, provisions, &c. the sum of 12.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Alsop, esq.

To Clement Biddle, for provisions, &c. for the British troops of the 7th and 26th regiments, who are prisoners, the sum of 294 dollars, and for wampum for the southern department, the sum of 59 dollars:

To Ludowic Kuhn, for boarding part of captain Roman's company of matrosses, the sum of 59.8 dollars:

To William Shepherd, for two horses sold by him to general Lee, and for sundry articles of geers, the sum of 175.7 dollars:

To Matthias Slough, for provisions for the 7th and 26th regiments of British troops, from the 26th February, to the 21st March, the sum of 198.3 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

Lord Sterling having, agreeable to the order of Congress of the 19th of March last, appointed persons to value the boat of Michael Kearney, jun. and transmitted to Congress the valuation by them made, amounting to 725 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid to the said Michael Kearney.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, April 10, 1776.

Two letters of the 1st from general Washington, were laid before Congress and read; also a letter of the 8th from John Connolly.

*Resolved*, That the letters from general Washington be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

The committee to whom the report on Indian affairs in the middle department, and the petition of captain White-Eyes, were referred, brought in their report which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, or any one of them, be desired to employ, for reasonable salaries, a minister of the gospel, to reside among the Delaware Indians, and instruct them in the Christian religion; a school-master to teach their youth reading, writing, and arithmetic; also, a blacksmith to do the work of the Indians in the middle department.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, be desired to provide, at the expense of the United Colonies, for the entertainment of the sachems and warriors of the Indians, and their attendants and messengers, with the accustomed hospitality, when they come to Pittsburg, to treat, or give intelligence of public affairs, or upon a visit.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to acquaint the Indians in their respective departments, that Congress have formed a plan for importing goods to supply their necessities:

That the commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to enquire, and report the cause, of the discontent of the Indians in the middle department, what measures may be pursued to restore quiet and harmony, and to use their utmost endeavors, in the mean time, to prevent hostilities.

*Resolved*, That although the prosperity of Dartmouth college, in the colony of New-Hampshire, is a desirable object, it is neither seasonable nor prudent to contribute towards its relief or support, out of the public treasury.

*Resolved*, That so soon as conveniently may be, a treaty be held between the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, and the nations of Indians to the westward; and that the said commissioners be desired to appoint the time and place of meeting for that purpose, and give the Indians information thereof.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to captain George Morgan, Eneas Mackay, esq. and captain John Neville, to adjust and determine all matters of difference between Coquataginta, or captain White-Eyes, and Messrs. Bernard Gratz and Michael Gratz; and that the arbitrators, in case either of the parties to whom it is recommended to submit to their award, shall refuse to abide hereby, report the reasons of such refusal, with a state of the case, and any other matters they shall think fit, to Congress.

That disputes which shall arise between any of the white people and the Indians in their dealings, (if the latter will consent) be determined by arbitrators, chosen, one by each of the parties, and another by the commissioners for Indian affairs, or when they are absent, by the agent in the department where the Indian party resides.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an agent for Indian affairs in the middle department, and the ballots being taken and examined,

George Morgan, esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 300 dollars be presented to captain White-Eyes.

*Resolved*, That George Morgan, esq. the agent for Indian affairs in the middle department, be empowered to purchase for captain White-Eyes, two horses with two saddles and bridles, and that the treasurers be directed to pay to the said George Morgan, a sum not exceeding 100 dollars for defraying the expenses thereof.

*Resolved*, That the following speech be delivered to captain White-Eyes tomorrow morning.

**BROTHER CAPTAIN WHITE-EYES,**

“ We have not been unmindful of our promise made to you and your nation, the 16th of December. We now thank you for your speech to us the 2d of last month.

**BROTHERS, THE DELAWARES,**

“ At the council-fire, at Pittsburg, last fall, and since by our brother captain White-Eyes, who hath been all the winter with us, you requested our assistance to promote peace and useful knowledge among you, particularly the knowledge of the Christian religion. We rejoice, brothers, to find you thus disposed, and will, as early as we can, provide a suitable minister, and school-master, and a sober man to instruct you in agriculture. These things we agree to do, brothers, at your request, and to convince you that we wish to advance your happiness, and that there may be a lasting union between us, and that, as you express it, we may become one people. The introduction of useful arts among you will be effected, we apprehend, by encouraging handicraft men to settle and reside in your country. The method of doing this, must be left to your own discretion.

**BROTHERS,**

“ We desire you will make it known among all the Indian nations to the westward, that we are determined to cultivate peace and friendship with them, and that we will endeavor, by making the best regulations in our power, to prevent any of our people wronging them in any manner, or taking their lands; and that we will strive to put the trade between us on such a footing, as will secure the peace, and promote the interest of all parties; and we expect, that all the wise men of every Indian nation, will use their influence for the same purpose.

**BROTHERS,**

“ We have named George Morgan, esq. as agent under our commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, and we desire you will confer with him on whatever business you may have with us. We hope you will inform him of all public matters. We recommend him to your friendship.

**" BROTHERS,**

" You tell us, that your uncles, our brothers, the Wiandots, have given your nation a large tract of country, comprehended between the river Ohio on the south, the west branch of the river Muskingham and Sandusky on the west, Lake Erie on the north, and Presque-Isle on the east :

**BROTHERS,**

Hearken to our advice. As we are informed that your uncles, our brothers, the Six Nations, claim most of those lands, we recommend it to you to obtain their approbation of this grant to you from the Wiandots in public council, and have it put on record. Such a step will prevent uneasiness and jealousy on their part, and continue the confidence and friendship which subsists between you and them. We wish to promote the lasting peace and happiness of all our brothers, the Indian nations, who live with us on this great island. As far as your settlement and security may depend upon us, you may be assured of our protection. We shall take all the care in our power, that no interruption or disturbance be given you by our people, nor shall any of them be suffered, by force or fraud, to deprive you of any of your lands, or to settle them without a fair purchase from you, and your free consent. If, contrary to our intention, any injury should be offered to you by any of our people, inform us of it, and we shall be always ready to procure you satisfaction and redress.

**" BROTHER CAPTAIN WHITE-EYES,**

We desire you will inform your nation, your uncles the Six Nations, and Wiandots, your grand children the Shawanese, and all the other nations, what you have seen and heard among us, and exhort them to keep fast hold of the covenant-chain of friendship, which we have so lately repaired and strengthened. As you are now about to depart, we present you with some money to buy clothes and necessaries, and pay your expenses, and we wish you a good journey, and bid you farewell.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, April 11, 1776.**

A letter of the 7th, from general Putnam, at new-York, with sundry papers enclosed, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Carpenter Wharton, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To lieutenant-colonel Zedwitz, for expenses in curing a wound received by him in falling from the walls of Quebec, and his expenses from thence to Philadelphia, the sum of 255.6 dollars :

To John Hales, for carriage-hire, &c. for the commissioners going to Canada, the sum of 223 dollars :

To Oliver Wolcott. esq. for his expenses in attending a treaty with the Six Nations at Albany, the sum of 60 dollars :

To Dr. Jonathan Potts, for attending the prisoners at Reading, the sum of 76.6 dollars; and for medicines, &c. provided for the troops in the middle department, the sum of 134.6 dollars, amounting, together, to the sum of 211.2 dollars.

To the following persons for boarding, &c. gen. Lee's guard, viz.

Richard Jacobs, the sum of 6.4 dols.	Jacob Wyncoop,	13.6 dols.
William Staddleman, 7.4	Michael Gallagher,	1.8
William M'Dowell, 3.4	John Kerlin,	8.6
Lawrence Fegan, 8.4	Charles Stultz,	3.7

To captain Long, for so much advanced by him to captain John Nelson, of one of the rifle companies, the sum of 10.7 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the committee of claims allow, for the support of the hostages sent by general Schuyler from Tryon county, the sum of two dollars a week.

*Resolved*, That two new members be added to the cannon committee, in the room of two who are absent :

The members chosen, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Whipple.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply the delegates of Maryland with one ton of powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the Eastern Shore, in that colony.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, be requested to provide proper barracks or quarters for such of the continental troops, as may be, from time to time, in the city of Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer at New-York be directed to discharge the militia of New-Jersey who are in the pay of the continent :

That the commanding officer at New-York be directed to discharge the whole, or such parts of the militia of New-York and Connecticut, now in the pay of the continent, as the public service will permit.

A petition from Eliphalet Dyer and William Williams, in behalf of the colony of Connecticut, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth, that the colony has advanced large sums of money for the continent over and above what have been paid them ; that tho' they have used their utmost diligence, they have not yet been able to prepare a full state of their accounts to lay before Congress, and as their treasury is exhausted, and the colony and the public interest in danger of suffering for want of supplies, praying that the Congress would advance to the colony the sum of fifty thousand pounds, lawful money, in part of their advances.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 166,666 2-3 dollars be advanced to the colony of Connecticut, on account of their advances for the service of the continent, the said colony to be accountable.

Captain White-Eyes being called in, the speech was delivered to him, and the money paid.

*Resolved*, That fifty dollars be paid to Isaac Stille the interpreter.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the conventions and committees or councils of safety of Virginia and North-Carolina, to provide for the maintenance and security of such of the enemy as are made prisoners in their colonies, agreeable to the regulations of Congress for the support of prisoners, and that the expense thereof be defrayed by the continent.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the truth of the report respecting governor Tryon's exacting an oath from persons going by the packet, and to ascertain the fact by affidavits taken before a chief justice, or other chief magistrate.

The members chosen, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Wilson.

*Resolved*, That the sum of thirty dollars be advanced to John Harkness, a wounded soldier, who was discharged at Cambridge without any pay.

Information being given that Mr. Hewes, a prisoner, has been defrauded of a large quantity of goods,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the truth of this matter, and report to Congress :

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Huntington, and Mr. Duane.

The committee to whom the petition of John Secord was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety of the United Colonies, to use their best endeavors in communicating to foreign nations the resolutions of Congress relative to trade

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

FRIDAY, *April* 12, 1776.

A letter of the 21st March, from W. H. Drayton, president of the convention of South-Carolina, with a copy of the act of parliament prohibiting all trade and commerce with the American colonies: also,

A letter of the 10th instant, from col. John Haslet, enclosing an account of the engagement between the detachment of the Delaware battalion at Lewis, and a tender of the Roebuck; also informing that another company is wanted at Lewistown, and that he has ordered one to march thither, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the conduct of colonel Haslet, in ordering another company to Lewistown, be approved.

The committee on qualifications having recommended James Hunter as a fit person to fill the oldest vacancy of second lieutenant, and Joel Westcoat as a suitable person to fill the second oldest vacancy of second lieutenant in the third Pennsylvania battalion,

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be directed to pay Mr. Price, the sum of 16,000 dollars in specie, in part of the sum ordered to be advanced to him and Mr. Haywood.

A petition from colonel James Easton was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Alexander.

*Resolved*, That the assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety of the colonies respectively, in which prisoners are or shall choose, or be appointed to reside, be empowered to remove such prisoners from place to place within the same colonies, as often as to such assemblies, conventions, or committees or councils of safety, respectively, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former resolutions of Congress concerning prisoners.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Alexander be appointed a member of the marine committee, in the room of Mr. Chase, who is absent.

A memorial from the Scotch hostages was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee of claims.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Henry Holler, for rifles and cash furnished to captain Nelson's company of rifle-men, the sum of 364.8 dollars, to be charged to said company; and for provisions for said company, the sum of 171.3 dollars; and for necessaries provided for prisoners at Reading, 1203 dollars; and for his pay as quartermaster in procuring provisions, 59 dollars; for provisions made for receiving the prisoners from Johnstown, the sum of 240 dollars; for expresses and incidental charges, the sum of 62.9 dollars; the whole amounting to 2101 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *April* 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of James Mease, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions; he to be accountable.

Mr. Mease having applied to Congress for advice how to conduct himself in paying the sixth Pennsylvania battalion,

*Resolved*, That the queries propounded by Mr. Mease, be referred to the committee for procuring fire-arms.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, the balance of his account for wagon-hire, the sum of 456 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A petition from the committees of the townships of Walpack, Sandystone, and Montague, in the county of Sussex, in New Jersey, was presented to Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the commissioners for Indian affairs, who are members of Congress.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for the sale and consumption of the teas now in these colonies, brought in the same, which was read and agreed to as follows :

Whereas, by the third article of the association entered into by the late Continental Congress, at Philadelphia, on the 24th day of October, in the year of our Lord, 1774, it was agreed, that, from that day, the inhabitants of the United Colonies "would not purchase nor use any tea imported on account of the East-India company, or any on which a duty had been or should be paid, and from and after the first day of March then next following, they would not purchase or use any East-India tea whatever:" And whereas, it has been represented to this Congress, that the time, as aforesaid limited for the consumption of the tea then on hand, was too short; whereby many zealous friends to the American cause, who had imported large quantities of that commodity, with design not merely to advance their fortunes, but to counteract the plan then pursued by the ministry, and India company, to introduce and sell in these colonies tea subject to duty, are likely to become great sufferers; the greater part of the estates of many of them being vested in that article, and they, by that means, rendered incapable not only of paying their debts and maintaining their families, but also of vigorously exerting themselves in the service of their country: And whereas, it was originally the design of Congress, that all India tea, which had been imported agreeable to the tenor of the said association, might be sold and consumed, but the time limited for that purpose proving too short;

*Resolved*, That all India tea, imported as aforesaid, expressly excepting all teas imported by or on account of the East-India company, now remaining on hand in these colonies, be sold and used :

And whereas, from the future importation of tea being prohibited, some tea-holders may be tempted to avail themselves of the scarcity which will be occasioned by it, and exact exorbitant prices for an article of little real value in itself, and which owes its worth to a habit, in many respects, pernicious to the inhabitants of these colonies,

*Resolved*, therefore, That Bohea tea ought not to be sold by retail in the smallest quantities, at a higher price, in any colony, than at the rate of three-fourth parts of a dollar per pound; and other teas at such a price as shall be regulated by the committees of the town or county where the tea is sold; and that all persons who shall either give or take a greater price for it, ought to be considered as enemies to the American cause, and treated accordingly. And it is earnestly recommended to all committees of inspection and observation, as well to be vigilant in carrying this resolve into execution, as those which prohibit the importation of India tea from any part of the world, it being the desire of Congress to exclude all teas, except such as may make part of the cargoes of prizes taken by ships of war or privateers belonging to these colonies.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to lieutenant-colonel Hartley one quarter cask of powder, to repay so much by him borrowed for the use of the continent.

The committee appointed to prepare a letter to the committee of safety of New-Jersey, brought in a draught, which being read, was agreed to:

*Ordered*, That the same be transcribed, signed by the president, and transmitted.

The committee appointed to consider the representation and queries of James

Mease, respecting the sixth battalion of troops commanded by colonel Irvine, brought in their report, which was read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the certificates of magistrates, or other respectable inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, who have inspected and examined the companies of the said battalion, shall, in this instance, justify the pay-master in paying such companies, agreeable to the said certificates, the muster-master being absent :

That the supernumerary privates that have been enlisted, and are armed and clothed, be continued and paid :

That the officers in the said battalion be paid for their subsistence since the recruiting service has been over, at the rates used in other battalions :

That the claim of the ensign in captain Wilson's company to pay and subsistence from the time of entering into actual service, be allowed.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to build two galleys, capable of carrying each two 36 or 42 pounders, to oppose the enemy's vessels in bays and harbors.

*Resolved*, That the committee for casting cannon be directed to contract for the casting forty howitzers, with a sufficient quantity of shells.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the application of James Hughes, late town-major of Montreal, and now one of the prisoners of the thirteen United Colonies, brought in their report, wherein they represent,

"That it appears to them that Mrs. Hughes, the wife of the said James Hughes, on or about the 5th of February last, bargained with a certain Jabez West, for divers goods and merchandise, in her possession, at Montreal, for which the said West, as the said J. Hughes alleges, agreed to pay £905 11 9<sup>9</sup> sterling money of Great-Britain, and £151 1 9, Halifax currency, in gold and silver, to said Hughes, within eighteen days from that time ; upon which payment being made, the goods were to be delivered at Albany, to the said West, by a certain John Stevenson, at Albany, to whom they were to be sent at the expense of the said West : that the said West paid to the said Hughes 240 dollars, in part ; but it was, as the said Hughes alleges, agreed, that if the residue of the money was not paid within the time limited, then the 240 dollars were to be forfeited, and the goods not to be delivered ; that the goods arrived at Albany, and were in the possession of Mr. Stevenson, who, on the 11th of March last, by some means or other, was induced to deliver the goods to West, though he paid no money ; that the said West gave a bond to the said Stevenson, payable to the said Hughes, for £1609 18 8, continental currency, on the 9th of April, instant, without any authority from the said Hughes, as he alleges ; that the said West proceeded with the goods, immediately on the receipt of them, to some of the eastern colonies, and, it is apprehended, to Connecticut. Upon the whole, the committee are of opinion, that the said Hughes may probably lose his debt from West, without the interposition of Congress, or their permission to him to go in pursuit of the said West : " Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That governor Trumbull, of the colony of Connecticut, be desired to direct the most effectual method, according to law, to be taken, for securing the person of Jabez West, or his effects, to the value of the debt due to James Hughes, if either can be found in his government ; and to see that justice be done in the premises.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, April 15, 1776.

A letter of the 4th from general Washington, enclosing a letter from governor Cooke, and an account of the powder supplied the army at Cambridge, by the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, from the 10th of June last ; also, a letter of the 2d from general Schuyler, with eight papers enclosed, being laid before Congress, and read,

**Resolved**, That the said letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

The committee to whom the petition from the committees of Walpack, &c. was referred, brought in their report, which was agreed to: Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That an order be drawn, by the chairman of the secret committee, upon Henry Wisner, esq. in favor of the petitioners, for 200lb. of powder, they paying for the same:

That 1000 flints be delivered to the petitioners:

That the petitioners be desired to send Garret Broadhead, esq. to the nearest Indian settlement, in order to discover whether any uneasiness subsists among the Indians in that part of the country; and, if it subsists, from what cause it arises:

That a letter be written by the president of the Congress to general Schuyler, to inform him of the apprehension of the inhabitants on the western boundaries of New-Jersey from the Indians, to request him to direct proper enquiries to be made, whether there be any foundation for such apprehensions.

The Congress, taking into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of John Secord,

**Resolved**, That a certified copy of the said petition be transmitted to the governor of Connecticut; that he be requested to cause enquiry to be made into the truth of the facts therein stated; and, if found true, that it be recommended to him to cause restitution to be made to the petitioner.

**Resolved**, That it be again recommended to the settlers at Wyoming and the Susquehanna river, as well those under Pennsylvania as those under Connecticut, to cultivate harmony, to consider themselves as jointly interested in the event of the American cause, and not, by mutual acts of violence or oppression, to injure that union that happily subsists between all the colonies, and on which their welfare so much depends.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of Monmouth county, in New-Jersey, with 300lb. of powder, they paying for the same.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, having property in America, who assist any of the enemies of the United Colonies in the capture of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damages to the sufferers:

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Wythe.

A petition from Moses Kirkland, a prisoner, was presented to Congress, and read:

**Resolved**, That it be referred to the committee on prisoners.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the ways and means of supplying the troops in Canada;

Whereupon, **Resolved**, That Mr. R. Morris be directed to purchase bills of exchange to the amount of three thousand pounds sterling, and deliver the same to Mr. Price; and that Mr. Morris be indemnified for any loss that may arise from endorsing them:

That the sum of 13,333.3 dollars be advanced to Mr. Price, to be employed by him in the service of the continent, in Canada, he to be accountable.

**Resolved**, That the officers of the rifle battalion, and independent rifle companies, be authorized and directed to recruit the said battalion and companies, and enlist the men as speedily as possible; and that their re-enlistment be for two years from the expiration of their present term, liable to be discharged sooner, if Congress shall think proper, upon receiving a month's pay advance.

A petition from Thomas Leaming, jun. in behalf of the committee of inspection for the county of Cape-May, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth the defenceless state of that part of the country, and praying for a supply of powder and lead, and that two companies of the continental forces may be stationed there.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *April* 16, 1776.

A letter of the 9th from commodore E. Hopkins, enclosing a list of the cannon and stores brought from Providence; and a letter of the 14th from the committee of Baltimore, enclosing copies of intercepted letters from the secretary of state to governor Eden; also, a letter of the 8th from general Thomas, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, That the secretary publish an extract of the letter from commodore Hopkins.

The Congress, taking into consideration the letter from the committee of Baltimore, and the papers enclosed, came to the following resolutions:

Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe, that Robert Eden, esq. governor of Maryland, has lately carried on a correspondence with the British ministry, highly dangerous to the liberties of America;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the council of safety of Maryland be earnestly requested, immediately to cause the person and papers of governor Eden to be seized and secured, and such of the papers as relate to the American dispute, without delay, conveyed safely to Congress; and that copies of the intercepted letters from the secretary of state, be enclosed to the said council of safety.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Maryland be requested to cause the person and papers of Alexander Ross to be immediately seized and secured, and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

And to prevent the said Alexander Ross having any opportunity to escape,

*Resolved*, That the like request be made to the committees of observation for Baltimore and Frederick counties in Maryland, in one of which counties the said Alexander Ross probably now is.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Isaac Melchior, for expenses from Montreal to Philadelphia, including a part of St. Luke La Corne's expenses to Albany, the sum of 34.7 dollars:

To Leonard Melchior, for boarding McDonald twenty days, the sum of 15 dollars:

To William Chew, for riding express to North-Carolina and back, including ferriages, the sum of 90 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to J. Hughes, esq.

To Samuel Purviance, jun. the sum of 133.3 dollars, money advanced by colonel Charles Beaty to captain James Grier, and that the same ought to be paid, and charged to the said James Grier:

To Anthony Tricker for boarding Donald McDonald, and others of the Scots prisoners, taken by general Schuyler, near Johnstown, the sum of 150 dollars:

To Peletiah Webster, for purchasing goods for the continent, including some incidental charges, the sum of 66.3 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of Monmouth county with 500 flints.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a clerk or assistant to the auditor-general:

Mr. William Webb was elected.

A letter of the 15th from H. Beaumont, surgeon of the 26th regiment, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee on prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1000 dollars be paid to Messrs. Price and Haywood, in consideration of their extraordinary services in Canada.

Whereas much inconvenience may be derived to the public from commit-

ees, others than the committee of safety in each colony, on the public post roads, stopping and opening the mails, and detaining letters from the constitutional post ;

*Resolved*, That no committee but the council or committee of safety in each colony, or such persons as they shall, on extraordinary occasions, authorize, shall stop the constitutional post, open the mail, or detain any letters therefrom.

*Resolved*, That the president write to commodore Hopkins, and direct him to send a complete list and state of the stores taken and brought from Providence, with the sizes of the cannon, &c. and, in case he should have left New-London, that governor Trumbull be desired to order a list of the stores left at New-London by commodore Hopkins, to be made out, and transmitted to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the cannon and such other of the stores as are not necessary for the fleet, be landed and left at New-London, and that such of the cannon and wheels as governor Trumbull shall direct, may be employed for the defence of that harbor, during the pleasure of Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *April 17*, 1776.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To John Avery, jun. for riding express from commodore Hopkins and back again, the sum of 40.7 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be instructed to recommend to Congress, proper persons for commission officers for the frigates now building, and that the warrant officers be appointed by the said committee ; and that they fit said frigates for sea with all expedition :

That the marine committee recommend to Congress proper persons to be agents for prizes in the several colonies :

That a bounty of eight dollars be allowed by the public to the owner of every American vessel for every able seaman that he shall import into the United Colonies, over and above the number the said vessel carried out ; and that foreigners importing able seamen over and above the ship's company, and discharging them in the American ports, shall be entitled to the same bounty.

*Resolved*, That the nomination or appointment of captains or commanders of continental vessels shall not establish rank, which is to be settled by Congress before commissions are granted.

The Congress having proceeded to the election of captains for the two frigates building in Massachusetts-Bay,

William Manly and Isaac Cozneau, were elected.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered to give orders for the arming and manning abroad any of the ships or vessels employed in the importation of cargoes for the continental account ; the expenses and charges of such armaments to be paid by the said committee ; they receiving for the public service, on the arrival of every vessel, all the arms, ammunition, and stores.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered to import cargoes of salt on the continental account, in such ships or vessels as they employ to carry outward cargoes, and are obliged to insure on their return.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to permit John Young, jun. and Johnson Smith, to carry to Virginia, all such arms as they have already purchased, or shall purchase in Pennsylvania, for the use of the continental army in the said colony of Virginia, before the first day

May next ; not to exceed one thousand stand in the whole.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply Mr. Thomas Mearns with 200 lb. of powder, for the militia of Cape May, he paying for the same.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer at New-York, be directed to order two companies of colonel Dayton's battalion to march to Cape-May, and there to remain till farther orders.

*Resolved*, That the petition of Dr. Jackson be referred to the committee of claims.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, April 18, 1776.

A letter of the 15th from general Washington; and,

A letter of the 7th of November last, from the Rev. Samuel Langdon, accompanied with a letter from general Putnam, and colonels Glover, Bridge, Fry, and Prescott; also,

A letter from James Warren, esq. pay-master-general, desiring leave to resign; were laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Read, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.

A letter from Elizabeth Seymour, widow of the late master of the Cabot was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the marine committee.

*Resolved*, That the committee on Indian affairs be directed to prepare, and report a draught of instructions to George Morgan, esq. agent under the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department.

A letter of the 6th, from brigadier-general Lewis, and a letter of the same date, from major-general Lee, being received and read, were referred to Mr. Read, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. Samuel Treat, for medicine, and for attending the troops at Burlington, the sum of 273.7 dollars:

To John Bull, esq. for expenses in conducting money to the camp at Cambridge, the sum of 155 dollara:

To Jacob Ming, for wagonage, the sum of 107.5 dollars.

To Robert Kennedy, for necessaries furnished captain Morgan's company, the sum of 544 dollars, of which sum, 189.2, being for rifles, shirts, &c. to be charged to the said company:

To Thaddeus Burr, for money paid by him for horse-hire, &c. the sum of 37.2 dollars, which ought to be charged to Jacob Hiltzheimer, express-master:

To sundries, on certificates produced by Thomas Johnson, esq. for provisions, &c. for general Lee's guard, the sum of 10.7 dollars and for a rifle delivered to captain Cressop's company, to be charged to the said company, the sum of 10.6 dollars:

To Jane Allen, for necessaries to several companies of continental troops the sum of 52.9 dollars, of which sum 40 dollars ought to be charged to the first Pennsylvania battalion, and deducted from the commissary's account:

To Dr. Hall Jackson, for his services as surgeon, the sum of 130 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Elbridge Gerry, esq.

To William Smith, for medicines, instruments, &c. for the Delaware battalion, the sum of 257.4 dollars:

To Timothy Shallor, for expenses in bringing prisoners from Egg-Harbor, the sum of 37.5 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The marine committee having recommended gentlemen for captains of the Hornet and Wasp, Congress proceeded to an election, and the ballots being taken, and examined,

William Hallock was elected captain of the Hornet; and,

———Alexander captain of the Wasp.

The committee appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a war-office, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *April* 19, 1776.

A letter of the 2d from governor Trumbull, with a petition from Noah Phelps being laid before Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the committee on qualifications.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to examine and ascertain the value of the several species of gold and silver coins, current in these colonies, and the proportions they ought to bear to Spanish milled dollars :

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Wythe, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Whipple.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Peter Brunner, for necessaries furnished to captain Nelson's company by himself and Abraham Vanhorn, the sum of 25.2 dollars, which ought to be charged to captain Nelson :

To Mary Miller, for provisions, &c. furnished to general Lee's guard, the sum of 16.5 dollars :

To Jacob Frantz, for horse-hire, and carrying brigadier-general Woedtke's baggage to New York, the sum of 47.5 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That letters which are directed to any general in the continental service, commanding in a separate department, be carried free of postage, by the constitutional post.

The committee appointed to prepare instructions to George Morgan, esq. brought in a draught, which being read, was agreed to as follows :

To George Morgan, esq. agent under the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department.  
SIR,

You are required to provide that the great belt presented to the Indians last fall at Pittsburg, be forwarded, with all convenient expedition, to the sachems and warriors of the western nations, and endeavor, to the utmost of your power, to convince them of the good wishes and good intentions of Congress for and towards them, and to cultivate harmony and friendship between them and the white people ; and to give Congress the most early intelligence of any interruption thereof, or of any disturbance which shall arise, and which you cannot quiet.

Acquaint the Indians that Congress have formed the best plan they could devise to import foreign goods for their use, and have neglected no probable means to procure them in time ; and if they should not be supplied so soon as they may be wanted, the misfortune is to be ascribed to the common enemies of them and us, who, by obstructing our trade, as well as in numberless other instances, are daily injuring and distressing both ; but that we have well grounded hopes of speedy relief, in expectation of which, and of greater advantages in prospect, the present inconveniencies are borne more patiently.

All differences and disputes that shall happen between the Indians and white people, you will have adjusted and determined in the mode prescribed by a resolve of Congress, of which you have a copy : and you are directed, in a particular manner, to prevent, as much as you are able, any impositions upon the former by those who deal with them. Treat all those people, with whom you may meet, kindly and hospitably. Inspire them with sentiments of justice and humanity, and dispose them to introduce the arts of civil and social life, and to encourage the residence of husbandmen and handicraft men among them. Advise Congress, from time to time, of all occurrences that may, in your opinion, deserve their attention.

The committee to whom gen. Washington's letter of the 15th inst. as well as other letters, were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington may order as many of the cannon and military stores as are not necessary for the continental fleet, and which were lately brought into New-London, by the commander thereof, to any other place he may think proper; having regard only to the permission of Congress relative to the defence of the harbor of New-London, a copy of which ought to be sent to general Washington, and also a list of the cannon and stores as transmitted to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the resignation of James Warren, as pay-master general of the army, be accepted and entered accordingly; and that he be informed there are superintendents of the treasury appointed, to whom he is to render his accounts and vouchers.

*Resolved*, That another pay-master general be appointed, and that the general be informed thereof.

As it appears from the certificates of four colonels of regiments at Cambridge, that the reverend Dr. Samuel Langdon did not only perform the duty of a chaplain to their several regiments, for the space of six months, for which no other chaplain had been appointed, but also to the army at large: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Dr. Langdon, having received no compensation for those services, be paid the sum of 300 dollars.

*Resolved*, That three tons of powder be immediately forwarded to Virginia, for the use of the army in the southern department.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be made acquainted with general Lee's request of a company of artillery, and be desired to furnish him with such a company, if it may be done consistent with the general good of the service.

*Resolved*, That an immediate supply of arms, shoes, and blankets, be furnished for the troops in Virginia, and that proper persons be appointed to procure them, subject to the orders of Congress already entered into.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Ephraim Blaine be appointed to purchase a quantity of blankets not exceeding 5,000, and also that he be directed to purchase 5,000 pair of shoes, to be sent to Virginia, to the commanding officer at Williamsburgh.

*Resolved*, That Monday next be assigned for the election of a pay-master general.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Thomas Lowry, commissary, be directed to purchase and forward to general Schuyler, with all convenient despatch, 2,000 barrels of pork, for the use of the army in Canada, and that he be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to confer with Mr. Price be directed to bring in a resolution to enable Messrs. Price and Haywood to draw for the balance of the money ordered to be paid them by the resolutions of the 14th and 16th of this month.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Du Montesson, Hevieux, La Marque, Du Masson, Shemit, Giasson, and Gamelin, Canadian prisoners, at Bristol, be permitted to come to Philadelphia in order to purchase clothes and other necessaries, and to remain there ten days, and then return to Bristol.

The committee to whom were referred the letter from general Washington, of the 4th, and the letter from general Schuyler, of the 2d of this month, brought in their report.

The committee on prisoners, having collected from the journals the several resolutions respecting prisoners, and having made some amendments therein, submitted the same to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, *April 22, 1776.*

Sundry letters, received since the adjournment, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from the committee of safety of Maryland, dated the 18th.

One from Dr. Boyd of the 19th.

One from the committee of inspection of Lancaster, of the 11th.

One from the Canada commissioners, dated Saratoga, the 13th.

One from general Washington, of the 19th.

One from general Schuyler, of the 12th, enclosing sundry letters and papers from Canada; and,

One from the committee of inspection of West-Augusta, with sundry papers enclosed.

*Resolved*, That the four last, with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Jay, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Johnson.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the letter from the committee of safety of Maryland, be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolve respecting Messrs. Price and Haywood, brought in the same: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Price and Haywood be empowered to draw bills of exchange on the president of Congress, for the sum of 48,358.6 dollars, payable the 5th of July next, in specie; it being the balance of a sum specified in a resolve of the 3d of April instant, after deducting 16,000 dollars, for which they received an order on the treasurers the 12th. And they are further empowered to draw bills as aforesaid, for 1000 dollars, ordered to be paid them by a resolve of the 6th instant.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners gone to Canada, be desired and empowered to settle the accounts of Messrs. Price and Haywood, to the 5th of February last, or to employ proper persons to examine the same, and compare the vouchers with the several articles of said accounts, and return a certificate to Congress of the balance justly due to Messrs. Price and Haywood, from the United Colonies, to that date, with the vouchers for expenditures and supplies by orders of general Montgomery and general Wooster.

*Resolved*, That the said commissioners be requested to return to Congress, a list of such persons as are accountable to the United Colonies for any part of the articles or expenditures comprised in Messrs. Price and Haywood's accounts, with the respective sums such persons are chargeable with, and deliver copies thereof to the commanding officers, that the proper deductions may be made from the pay of the officers and men.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Mr. Samuel Fairlamb, for the use of colonel Wayne's battalion, he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications, having recommended Mr. Jacob Weaver, to an ensigncy which is vacant in the third Pennsylvania battalion:

*Resolved*, That he be appointed, and that a commission be accordingly granted to him.

The several matters referred to this day, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *April 23, 1776.*

A letter of the 12th, from major-general Ward, being received and read, repeating his desire for leave to resign,

*Resolved*, That the resignation of major-general Ward, and of brigadier general Fry, be accepted, and that the president inform them thereof by letter.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Robert Erwin for wagonage, the sum of 873.8 dollars;

To John Dunn, the balance in full due to colonel Heard's battalion, for their pay, subsistence, &c. on the expedition to Long-Island, the sum of 2453: dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The marine committee having, agreeably to the orders of Congress, recommended gentlemen to be agents for prizes in the several colonies,

*Resolved*, That captain John Bradford be appointed for the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, Daniel Tillinghast for Rhode-Island, Nathaniel Shaw, jun. for Connecticut, Jacobus Vanzantz for New-York, John Nixon, and John Maxwell Nesbit for Pennsylvania, William Lux for Maryland, John Tazewell for Virginia, Cornelius Harnet for Wilmington, Richard Ellis for Newbern, and Robert Smith for Edenton in North Carolina, with power to each, to appoint one or more deputies, if necessary.

The committee, to whom the letters from general Washington, general Schuyler, and the letters from Canada and Pittsburg were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the president signify to colonel Hazen, the approbation of Congress, for his letter, and attention to the public good.

*Resolved*, That 300,000 dollars be immediately sent to general Schuyler, for supplying and paying the army in Canada.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners of Congress in Canada, be desired to publish an address to the people of Canada, signifying, that Congress has been informed of injuries offered by our people to some of them: expressing our resentment at such misconduct, assuring them of our attachment to their security; inviting them to state their grievances to our commissioners, and promising ample redress to them, and exemplary punishment to the offenders.

*Resolved*, That instructions be sent to the commissioners, to cause justice to be done to the Canadians, agreeable to the tenor of the above resolve.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer in Canada, be directed to be very attentive to military discipline, and inflict exemplary punishment on all those who violate the military regulations established by Congress.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to send six battalions into Canada from the army of New-York.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written by the president to general Washington requesting his opinion whether any farther additional troops are necessary to be sent for the reduction of Quebec, and for the security of Canada; and, if he shall think more troops necessary, whether they can, with safety, be spared from the army now in New-York?

*Resolved*, That if any of the troops from New-Jersey or Pennsylvania, which were raised at five dollars a month, be sent to Canada, they shall be allowed at the rate of six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar a month, from the time they begin their march.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, April 24, 1776.

A memorial from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Alexander.

Mr. R. Morris reported, that in pursuance of the order of Congress, he has purchased and delivered to Mr. James Price, bills of exchange to the amount of three thousand pounds sterling, for which he produced Mr. Price's receipt.

**Resolved**, That an order for 14,800 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Mr. R. Morris, in full for the above bills of exchange.

**Resolved**, That the committees appointed to confer with Mr. Price, be directed to draw up instructions to him, for his government, in disposing and laying out the money put into his hands.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Trumbull, the commissary-general, be directed to provide and forward to general Schuyler, 2000 barrels of pork, with all possible despatch, for the use of the continental army in Canada, and that the said commissary be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable for the same.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Alsop, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Lewis be requested to purchase and forward, with all convenient despatch, to general Schuyler, for the use of the continental army in Canada, 10,000 pair of shoes, 10,000 pair of stockings; and that 15,000 dollars be advanced to them for those purposes, they to be accountable.

**Resolved**, That a letter be written to general Schuyler, to inform him of the ten additional battalions lately ordered for Canada, and of the 2000 barrels of pork, and the 10,000 pair of shoes, and 10,000 pair of stockings, ordered by Congress to be sent to him; and to desire him to pursue the best means for furnishing such other necessary articles of clothing and food as may be wanting for the continental army in Canada, having regard to such of these as Mr. Price, the commissary in that province, can supply there: Also, that general Schuyler be desired to inform the president, what quantity of gun-powder he has received for Canada since the first of January last, and that he continue, as hitherto, to give the earliest notice to Congress of the occasion for further supplies of this and other necessaries that may be wanting, and not in his power to procure.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to forward from Mr. Wisner's and Mr. Livingston's powder-mills, five tons of powder, to general Schuyler, to be by him forwarded to Canada.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To John Gibson, agent appointed by the commissioners for Indian affairs, for sundry services in the middle department, by order of the commissioners, the sum of 377.9 dollars:

To John Davis, for wagonage for the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 60 dollars:

To Furman and Hunt, for provisions, &c. for the prisoners at Trenton, the sum of 183.8 dollars:

To Duncan M'Donald, the sum of 15.8 dollars, of which sum, 13.6 dollars ought to be charged to captain Hendrick's company, and 2.2 dollars to captain Cluggage's company, for goods furnished to the said companies; and that the same ought to be paid to Ephraim Blaine, esq.

To Margaret Smith, for nursing two men in the small pox, belonging to captain Benezet's company, the sum of 24 dollars.

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

The convention of South-Carolina having appointed delegates to represent that colony in Congress, the credentials of their appointment were presented to Congress, and read, as follows:

"IN CONGRESS, CHARLESTON, SOUTH-CAROLINA, *February* 16, 1776.

**Resolved**, That Thomas Lynch, John Rutledge, Edward Rutledge, Arthur Middleton, and Thomas Heyward, jun. esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed and fully authorized, to represent this colony in the Continental Congress, for one year next ensuing.

*March* 23, 1776.

**Resolved**, That the delegates of this colony in the Continental Congress, or a majority of such of them as shall at any time be present in the said Congress,

or any one of the said delegates, if no more than one shall be present, be, and they and he are, and is, hereby authorized and empowered, for and in behalf of this colony, to concert, agree to, and execute every measure, which they or he, together with a majority of the Continental Congress, shall judge necessary for the defence, security, interest, and welfare of this colony in particular, and of America in general.

*Resolved*, That another delegate be forthwith chosen by ballot by this Congress, to represent this colony in the Continental Congress, in addition to, and with as full powers, in all respects, as the delegates already chosen, have, and are invested with. The Congress then proceeded to ballot for said delegate, and Thomas Lynch, jun. esq. appearing to be, and being declared, duly chosen,

*Resolved*, That Thomas Lynch, jun. esq. be, and he is hereby, appointed a sixth delegate from this colony, to represent the same in the Continental Congress.

A true copy,

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary.*

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration general Washington's letter of the 27th of March, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter referred to them, but not having come to any determination thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the letter from general Washington of the 27th of March, and the petition enclosed therein.

The other matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *April 25, 1776.*

Two letters from general Washington, of the 22d and 23d, were laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Hewes.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of Ephraim Blaine, esq. for the purpose of purchasing shoes and blankets for the continental troops in Virginia ; he to be accountable.

The committee on qualifications having recommended Thomas Holland to be a second-lieutenant in the Delaware battalion, in the room of James M'Donnough, deceased, and John Corse, ensign, in the room of Thomas Holland,

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The committee, to whom the petition of Noah Phelps, was referred, brought in their report, which was agreed to ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of inspection of the city of Albany, be requested to adjust Mr. Noah Phelps's account of services performed at Ticot-deroga ; and that Mr. Noah Phelps be allowed and paid for his further services including those of contractor from the time of his joining general Montgomery, at the rate of one dollar for each day, until he quitted the service, and an equivalent to a captain's rations during the said time, provided he has not already had them ; the latter account to be settled by general Schuyler, who is requested to pay to the said Noah Phelps, what may appear to be due to him for the whole of his services aforesaid.

The committee, to whom the letter from lord Sterling, of the 10th of March last, with the papers therein enclosed, was referred, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

On application from the committee of Lower Pennsneck, in the county of Salem, in New-Jersey,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the said committee, 75lb. of gun-powder.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the intercepted letter from John Butler, at Niagara, dated the 29th of February, be sent to general Schuyler.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the report of the committee appointed to enquire into the truth and foundation of the story, "That the Indians have been invited by governor Penn to come to Philadelphia," be sent to general Schuyler; and that general Schuyler be directed to cause the person to be arrested, who pretended to have carried such invitation to the Indians.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

For the expenses of general Lee's guard, the sum of 10.8 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlack:

On a draught drawn by Ephraim Blaine, esq. on the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, in favour of Samuel Semple, the sum of 77 dollars, for expenses of the said commissioners, and that the said sum ought to be paid to Robert Miller, esq. of the county of Cumberland:

For the subsistence of A. Hill Brice, captain of the 7th regiment of foot, of royal fusileers, the sum of 39.5 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Thomas M'Kean, esq. and charged to the said captain:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the letter from general Washington of the 27th March last, and the papers therein enclosed; and, after sometime, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had come to a resolution on the matters referred to them, which he read, and delivered in.

The report being again read,

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Information being given to Congress, that Allan Cameron, who is confined in gaol, is in such a state of health as to require the attendance of a physician, and that he is desirous of the assistance of Dr. Cadwallader:

*Resolved*, That Dr. Cadwallader have leave to attend him.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, April 26, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to settle and pay to the colony of Connecticut, the powder lent by the said colony to general Washington, for the use of the continent, and to act as they shall judge best for the public service, and the benefit of Connecticut, in exchanging the powder which the said colony has in Philadelphia, for powder in the eastern ports belonging to the continent.

*Resolved*, That 50,000 dollars be sent to the committee of safety of Virginia, and that the president write to the said committee, and request them to use their utmost endeavors to have it exchanged for specie, and remit the same to the continental treasurers; and, in case they can procure more specie, that they send it, and draw for the amount on the pay-master in Virginia, who is ordered to pay such draughts.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master in Virginia, for the use of the continental troops, he to be accountable.

A letter from Dr. Cadwallader was laid before Congress, and read, giving account of A. Cameron's state of health: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said A. Cameron be allowed the benefit of air in his room, and of walking an hour every morning in the yard, in company or pre-

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

A letter of the 3d, from colonel Hand, of the rifle battalion, was read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an order for 4000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of colonel Hand, for the use of his battalion, he to be accountable.

That the letter from colonel Hand be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Read, Mr. Sergeant, and Mr. Huntington.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter of the 29th of April, from the committee of safety of New-York: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a major be appointed for the first New-York battalion, in the room of major Benedict, who has resigned:

The ballots being taken and examined,

Barnabas Tuthill, esq. was elected.

Sundry letters, just received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz. one of the 10th of April, from brigadier general Wooster, at Holland-House, before Quebec:

One of the 28th of said month, from general Schuyler, dated Fort-George, enclosing the examination of Michael Ryan:

One of the 27th of the same month, from governor Trumbull, enclosing a letter from N. Shaw, jun. with a list of the cannon left at New-London.

*Ordered*, That the marine committee lay on the table, on Monday next, the instructions given by the naval committee to commodore Hopkins, upon his leaving this port.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That all the cannon, and other stores, in Boston, which were originally purchased and provided by and at the expense of the colonies of Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, be considered as belonging to the colony that so purchased and provided them; and that all the other cannon left in the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, by the British forces, be presented to the said colony:

The farther consideration of the report, at the request of a colony, was postponed till Monday next.

Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on general Washington's letter of the 4th of April: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the pay of the officers and soldiers of the militia, lately called to Cambridge, commence on the day of their march, and cease on that of their return.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, May 6, 1776.

Advice being received that captain Young, who was fitted out at the expense of the continent, by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Alsop, was arrived;

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to give proper orders for landing, securing and bringing to Philadelphia the cargo imported by captain Young.

A memorial of captain Herman Allen was presented to Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee of claims.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March; and, thereupon, came to the following resolution:

Whereas general Washington has requested directions concerning the conduct that should be observed towards commissioners, said to be coming from Great-Britain to America,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be informed, that Congress suppose, if commissioners are intended to be sent from Great-Britain to treat of peace,

that the practice usual in such cases will be observed, by making previous application for the necessary passports or safe conduct, and on such application being made, Congress will then direct the proper measures for the reception of such commissioners.

The committee appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, or having property in America, who assist any of the enemies of these United Colonies in the captures of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damage to the sufferers, brought in a report which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A letter of the 24th of April, from general Lee, was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their consideration, the state of the United Colonies ; and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had thereupon come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to report when the house should be ready to receive them.

*Ordered*, That the report be now delivered in.

The report of the committee of the whole being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That ten millions of dollars be raised for the purpose of carrying on the war for the current year :

That the Indian goods said to be at Fort-Pitt, be purchased for the use of the United Colonies :

That Indian goods to the value of ten thousand dollars, be purchased at Montreal, for the use of the United Colonies :

That treaties be held with the Indians in the different departments, as soon as practicable ; and that the sum of ten thousand dollars be paid out of the treasury, to the commissioners of each respective department, for presents to the Indians and the expenses of such treaties.

Mr. Harrison further reported, that the committee desired him to move for leave to sit again : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means for raising the ten millions of dollars :

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Sherman, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Hewes.

*Resolved*, That the convention, or council of safety of Virginia, be empowered to appoint surgeons to the battalions raised in the said colony, for the service of the continent.

*Resolved*, That John Taylor be appointed judge-advocate to the continental troops in the colony of Virginia.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, May 7, 1776.

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One of the 5th of April from general Washington :

One of the 14th from John G. Frazer, enclosing a list of the vessels, cannon, and ordnance-stores left by the enemy at Boston :

One from sundry prisoners at Hartford, in Connecticut, dated 21st March :

One from L. F. of St. Eustatia, dated 5th of April :

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Duane.

A petition from John Bayard, P. Moore, and John Patton, was presented to Congress and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the petitioners 600lb. of powder, for the use of the privateers they are fitting out.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Rodney and Mr. Read be added to the committee appointed to supply the troops in Philadelphia, and the battalion in the lower counties on Delaware.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania was presented to Congress and read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, April 29, 1776.**

Sundry letters and papers being received, were laid before Congress and read, viz.

A letter of the 25th, from general Washington, enclosing a return of the army at New-York:

A letter from major Wrixon, declining to accept of the commission of chief engineer:

A letter from the council of safety of Maryland, with the examination of Alexander Ross, and sundry papers found in his possession:

**Resolved**, That the letter from general Washington and the letter from the council of safety of Maryland, with Mr. Ross's papers, be referred to a committee of five:

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Rodney.

Also, a letter of the 19th from general Lee, and one from Thomas Bull; and a petition from Dr. J. Potts, were read, and referred to the said committee.

**Resolved**, That letters be written by the president to general Schuyler and the committee of safety of New-York, desiring them to inform this Congress, whether the continental commissions sent to them for the officers of the troops raised by Connecticut the last campaign, were delivered, or offered to them, or to any, and which of them, and whether any, and which of them refused, or accepted the same? and particularly, whether commissions were offered to colonel Waterbury and colonel Easton, and whether they refused accepting them?

**Resolved**, That captain Peter Adams, from Maryland, under whose custody Alexander Ross was brought to Philadelphia, be dismissed, and that the said Alexander Ross be committed to the care of the officer commanding the continental troops in Pennsylvania.

**Resolved**, That a standing committee be appointed for Indian affairs; that it consist of five: that the election of the members be postponed till to-morrow.

**Resolved**, That the Congress, relying on the integrity and honor of captain A. M'Gee, order, that he be permitted to go at large, on giving his parole to the committee of West Augusta, not to engage or be concerned in any measure injurious to these colonies, by stimulating the Indian nations to make war against them, or otherwise.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Benjamin Marshall, for tin cartouch boxes, the sum of 465 dollars:

To Ephraim Blaine, esq. for subsistence, wagonage, and ferriages of the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 2736 dollars:

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on general Washington's letter of the 19th, &c. Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the papers from Fort-Pitt be referred to the committee appointed to consider the state of Indian affairs in the middle department.

**Resolved**, That no traders ought to go into the Indian country without license from the agent in the department; and that care be taken by him to prevent exorbitant prices for goods being exacted from the Indians.

**Resolved**, That a ton of powder be sent to Mr. G. Morgan, to be distributed to such Indians as he shall be convinced are in our interest.

Prescot, (excepting ammunition and provisions) and pay the value thereof among the officers and men employed in that service, in such proportions as the commissioners shall determine.

As the petitioner's account of monies received, and disbursements made by him for the use of his regiment, on which he claims a balance, can, for want of proper vouchers and information here, only be adjusted in Canada, where the business was transacted,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for settlement in such mode as the commissioners from Congress, in that province, shall direct; but, as the petitioner is in want of money,

*Resolved*, That 200 dollars be advanced to him in part of his demand against the United Colonies.

With regard to the petitioner's request, that a court of enquiry may be called respecting the charge against him and major Brown, for plundering the effects of the prisoners:—As brigadier-general Arnold in his letter of the 1st of February last alleges, that the petitioner and major Brown had been publicly accused of plundering the officers' baggage, taken at Sorell, contrary to the articles of capitulation, and to the great scandal of the American arms; for which reason, he declared it to be his opinion, that it would give great disgust to the army in general, if either of them should be promoted until these matters were cleared up; and, as the petitioner asserts his innocence, declaring that he neither plundered, nor directed, nor was privy to the plundering of any prisoner or other person whatever: considering, therefore, on one hand, the aggravated nature of this charge, which is an impediment to the petitioner's promotion, and, on the other, the great confidence reposed in him by general Montgomery, and the essential service which the petitioner has rendered to his country:

*Resolved*, That the commissioners from Congress, in Canada, be instructed to cause enquiry to be made by a court-martial, or otherwise, into the charge against the petitioner, giving him an opportunity of making his defence; and that the proceedings thereon be transmitted to Congress, in order that justice may be done to the petitioner, if he has been accused without sufficient reason,

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### SATURDAY, April 27, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for 350 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. Edy; of which 250 for himself, and 100 for Isaiah Beaudreau, for services done.

Sundry letters and papers from North-Carolina were laid before Congress and read, viz.

An affidavit respecting the capture of W. Ginn's brig.

A letter from Samuel Johnson, president of the convention, dated the 10th instant, enclosing sundry resolves of the said convention, and an extract of a letter from brigadier-general Moore.

*Resolved*, That the affidavit be delivered to the secret committee:

That the other papers be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Alexander.

Congress proceeded to the election of a pay-master general, in the room of Mr. Warren, whose resignation was accepted; and the ballots being taken, and examined,

William Palfrey, esq. was elected.

Congress also proceeded to the election of a deputy commissary-general, for supplying the troops in Virginia with rations; and the ballots being taken, and examined,

William Aylet, esq. was elected.

*Provided*, That any person apprehending himself or herself to be aggrieved by the adjudication of the commissioners, may appeal from their sentence to Congress, such appeal being demanded and lodged with the secretary of Congress, within the times limited, and the appellant giving security, in the manner prescribed in the case of an appeal from the sentence of a court appointed for hearing maritime causes.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of George Evans, who has contracted to supply the Delaware battalions with rations, he to be accountable.

The delegates for New-Jersey having laid before Congress a number of bills counterfeited to imitate the continental bills of credit,

*Resolved*, That a committee of six be appointed to consider of this matter, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Sherman, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Duane.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Thursday.

#### THURSDAY, May 2, 1776.

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress and read, viz. of the 22d of April, from the committee of secrecy, war, and intelligence, of North-Carolina, with a list of prisoners sent to Philadelphia;

One of the 30th of April, from general Washington, enclosing a memorial from governor Cooke; and

One of the 29th of the same month, from the committee of safety of New-York.

*Ordered*, That the letter from general Washington, with the memorial enclosed, be referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the eastern colonies.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to general Schuyler, desiring him, in case major Douglass declines to take the command of the vessels on the lakes, to appoint captain Wyncoop to that command, and inform Congress thereof by the first opportunity.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favour of James Mease, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

A letter of the 1st, from Henry Fisher, of Lewistown, directed to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, was laid before Congress, and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of the Delaware battalion, be directed to station thirty-five men, with an officer, at the False Cape, till farther orders.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send 200lb. of powder and 200lb of lead, to Lewis town, for the use of the companies stationed there.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. William Murry, for account of medicine and attendance for the four Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 58.3 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

The committee, to whom were referred the papers laid before Congress by the delegates from North-Carolina, brought in their report, which was read:

*Ordered*, to lie on the table.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March last; and after debate,

*Resolved*, That it be recommitted; and, as the members of the former committee are absent, that a new committee be appointed.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. W. Rutledge.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to that branch of the council of safety of Delaware government, residing in Kent county, to furnish the commanding officer of the Delaware battalion, with as many of the public arms of that county as may be sufficient for arming the companies of the said battalion, stationed at Lewistown, to be used by them till otherwise ordered by the said branch of the council of safety.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *May 3*, 1776.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To David Williams for wagon-hire, the sum of 112 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send two hundred pounds of Peruvian bark to the commanding officer in Virginia, for the use of the continental forces in the southern department.

A petition from Peter Simon was presented to Congress and read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. J. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to Hendrick Van-brune and Thomas Littel, 300 lb. of powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the township of Shrewsbury, to enable them to defend their sea-coast.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter from brigadier lord Sterling, dated the 18th of March last; which was agreed to; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the appointment of lieutenant-colonel Ogden, of the first battalion of New-Jersey, was made upon good grounds, the Congress having reserved and frequently exercised the right of promoting men of distinguished merit:

That the commissary, Mr. Lowry, be directed to supply such of the soldiers of the said battalion, as desire it, with uniforms, the cost to be deducted from their pay:

That as the army is now removed from Cambridge to New-York, the consideration of raising a regiment of artillery for the service in that city, as applied for in the said letter, be postponed till further advice may be received from general Washington, or the commanding officer there.

A petition from captain Oswald Eve was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. Sergeant.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, 'in favour of colonel John Haslet, for the use of the Delaware battalion under his command, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send 300lb. of powder, and a proportionable quantity of lead, to Lewistown, for the use of the troops stationed there.

The committee, to whom the report on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March last was recommitted, brought in their report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *May 4*, 1776.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. David Cowell, the sum of 97.4 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

A letter of the 3d, from colonel Hand, of the rifle battalion, was read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an order for 4000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers favor of colonel Hand, for the use of his battalion, he to be accountable.

That the letter from colonel Hand be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Read, Mr. Sergeant, and Mr. Huntington.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter of the 29th of April, from the committee of safety of New-York: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a major be appointed for the first New-York battalion, in the room of major Benedict, who has resigned:

The ballots being taken and examined,

Barnabas Tuthill, esq. was elected.

Sundry letters, just received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz. one of the 10th of April, from brigadier general Wooster, at Holland-House, before Quebec:

One of the 28th of said month, from general Schuyler, dated Fort-George, enclosing the examination of Michael Ryan:

One of the 27th of the same month, from governor Trumbull, enclosing a letter from N. Shaw, jun. with a list of the cannon left at New-London.

*Ordered*, That the marine committee lay on the table, on Monday next, the instructions given by the naval committee to commodore Hopkins, upon his leaving this port.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That all the cannon, and other stores, in Boston, which were originally purchased and provided by and at the expense of the colonies of Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, be considered as belonging to the colony that so purchased and provided them; and that all the other cannon left in the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, by the British forces, be presented to the said colony:

The farther consideration of the report, at the request of a colony, was postponed till Monday next.

Congress then took into consideration the report of the committee on general Washington's letter of the 4th of April: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the pay of the officers and soldiers of the militia, lately called to Cambridge, commence on the day of their march, and cease on that of their return.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, May 6, 1776.

Advice being received that captain Young, who was fitted out at the expense of the continent, by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Alsop, was arrived;

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to give proper orders for landing, securing and bringing to Philadelphia the cargo imported by captain Young.

A memorial of captain Herman Allen was presented to Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee of claims.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on general Washington's letter of the 24th of March; and, thereupon, came to the following resolution:

Whereas general Washington has requested directions concerning the conduct that should be observed towards commissioners, said to be coming from Great-Britain to America,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be informed, that Congress suppose if commissioners are intended to be sent from Great-Britain to treat of peace,

that the practice usual in such cases will be observed, by making previous application for the necessary passports or safe conduct, and on such application being made, Congress will then direct the proper measures for the reception of such commissioners.

The committee appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, or having property in America, who assist any of the enemies of these United Colonies in the captures of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damage to the sufferers, brought in a report which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A letter of the 24th of April, from general Lee, was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their consideration, the state of the United Colonies ; and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had thereupon come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to report when the house should be ready to receive them.

*Ordered*, That the report be now delivered in.

The report of the committee of the whole being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That ten millions of dollars be raised for the purpose of carrying on the war for the current year :

That the Indian goods said to be at Fort-Pitt, be purchased for the use of the United Colonies :

That Indian goods to the value of ten thousand dollars, be purchased at Montreal, for the use of the United Colonies :

That treaties be held with the Indians in the different departments, as soon as practicable ; and that the sum of ten thousand dollars be paid out of the treasury, to the commissioners of each respective department, for presents to the Indians and the expenses of such treaties.

Mr. Harrison further reported, that the committee desired him to move for leave to sit again : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means for raising the ten millions of dollars :

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Sherman, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Hewes.

*Resolved*, That the convention, or council of safety of Virginia, be empowered to appoint surgeons to the battalions raised in the said colony, for the service of the continent.

*Resolved*, That John Taylor be appointed judge-advocate to the continental troops in the colony of Virginia.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, May 7, 1776.

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One of the 5th of April from general Washington :

One of the 14th from John G. Frazer, enclosing a list of the vessels, cannon, and ordnance-stores left by the enemy at Boston :

One from sundry prisoners at Hartford, in Connecticut, dated 21st March :

One from L. E. of St. Eustatia, dated 5th of April :

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Duane.

A petition from John Bayard, P. Moore, and John Patton, was presented to Congress and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the petitioners 10lb. of powder, for the use of the privateers they are fitting out.

**Resolved,** That one hundred dollars be paid by the treasurers to M. Giam, a Canadian prisoner, upon his giving a bill upon his friend at Montreal for the like sum, payable on demand.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the paper laid before Congress by the delegates of North-Carolina: Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That another battalion raised, in North-Carolina, in addition to the five battalions already ordered for the defence of that colony, be taken into the pay and service of the United Colonies:

That a deputy quarter-master general be appointed for the southern department, to be employed in North-Carolina:

That the secret committee be directed to procure and forward twelve field-pieces for the use of the troops in North-Carolina:

That the secret committee be directed to forward three tons of gun-powder for the defence of the said colony:

That the committee on qualifications be directed to purchase and forward to North-Carolina, a chest of medicines and instruments, equal in value to one of those furnished by the Pennsylvania battalions, for each of the six battalions raised in the colony of North-Carolina.

Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy quarter-master general in the southern department; and the ballots being taken,

Nicholas Long, esq. was elected.

**Resolved,** That Nicholas Long, esq. have the rank of a colonel in the continental army.

The convention of North-Carolina having recommended sundry gentlemen for field-officers of the six battalions raised in that colony, Congress proceeded to a choice, and the following gentlemen were elected:

Francis Nash, esq. colonel, Thomas Clarke, esq. lieutenant-colonel, William Davis, esq. major, of the 1st battalion.

Alexander Martin, esq. colonel, John Patton, esq. lieutenant-colonel, John White, esq. major, of the second battalion.

Jethro Sumner, esq. colonel, William Alston, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Samuel Lockart, esq. major, of the 3d battalion.

Thomas Polk, esq. colonel, James Thackston, esq. lieutenant-colonel, William Davidson, esq. major, of the 4th battalion.

Edward Bancombe, esq. colonel, Henry Irwin, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Levi Dawson, esq. major, of the 5th battalion.

Alexander Lillington, esq. colonel, William Taylor, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Gideon Lamb, esq. major, of the 6th battalion.

**Ordered,** That the letter received yesterday from general Lee, be referred to the committee to whom were referred the letters received this morning.

**Resolved,** That the committee appointed to purchase stockings for the troops in Canada, be directed to apply to the general assemblies of Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, and request them to assist in procuring the said stockings.

Congress took into consideration the memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania; Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That twenty of the heaviest cannon, taken by commodore Hopkins, at New-Providence, and brought from thence to New-London, and since carried to Newport, be brought to the city of Philadelphia, and delivered to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the defence and protection of the said city; to remain there during the pleasure of Congress.

William Peachy, esq. colonel of the fifth Virginia battalion, having resigned, Congress proceeded to elect a gentleman to supply his place; and, the ballots being taken,

Charles Scott, esq. was elected; and,

Alexander Spotswood was elected lieutenant-colonel of the second battalion, in the room of colonel Scott.

that the practice usual in such cases will be observed, by making previous application for the necessary passports or safe conduct, and on such application being made, Congress will then direct the proper measures for the reception of such commissioners.

The committee appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, or having property in America, who assist any of the enemies of these United Colonies in the captures of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damage to the sufferers, brought in a report which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A letter of the 24th of April, from general Lee, was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their consideration, the state of the United Colonies ; and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had thereupon come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to report when the house should be ready to receive them.

*Ordered*, That the report be now delivered in.

The report of the committee of the whole being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That ten millions of dollars be raised for the purpose of carrying on the war for the current year :

That the Indian goods said to be at Fort-Pitt, be purchased for the use of the United Colonies :

That Indian goods to the value of ten thousand dollars, be purchased at Montreal, for the use of the United Colonies :

That treaties be held with the Indians in the different departments, as soon as practicable ; and that the sum of ten thousand dollars be paid out of the treasury, to the commissioners of each respective department, for presents to the Indians and the expenses of such treaties.

Mr. Harrison further reported, that the committee desired him to move for leave to sit again : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of America.

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means for raising the ten millions of dollars :

The members chosen, Mr. Duane, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Sherman, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Hewes.

*Resolved*, That the convention, or council of safety of Virginia, be empowered to appoint surgeons to the battalions raised in the said colony, for the service of the continent.

*Resolved*, That John Taylor be appointed judge-advocate to the continental troops in the colony of Virginia.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, May 7, 1776.

Sundry letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One of the 5th of April from general Washington :

One of the 14th from John G. Frazer, enclosing a list of the vessels, cannon, and ordnance-stores left by the enemy at Boston :

One from sundry prisoners at Hartford, in Connecticut, dated 21st March :

One from L. F. of St. Eustatia, dated 5th of April :

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr Duane.

A petition from John Bayard, P. Moore, and John Patton, was presented to Congress and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the petitioners 600lb. of powder, for the use of the privateers they are fitting out.

*Resolved*, That one hundred dollars be paid by the treasurers to M. Gizon, a Canadian prisoner, upon his giving a bill upon his friend at Montreal for the like sum, payable on demand.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the papers laid before Congress by the delegates of North-Carolina: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That another battalion raised, in North-Carolina, in addition to the five battalions already ordered for the defence of that colony, be taken in to the pay and service of the United Colonies:

That a deputy quarter-master general be appointed for the southern department, to be employed in North-Carolina:

That the secret committee be directed to procure and forward twelve field-pieces for the use of the troops in North-Carolina:

That the secret committee be directed to forward three tons of gun-powder for the defence of the said colony:

That the committee on qualifications be directed to purchase and forward to North-Carolina, a chest of medicines and instruments, equal in value to one of those furnished by the Pennsylvania battalions, for each of the six battalions raised in the colony of North-Carolina.

Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy quarter-master general for the southern department; and the ballots being taken,

Nicholas Long, esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That Nicholas Long, esq. have the rank of a colonel in the continental army.

The convention of North-Carolina having recommended sundry gentlemen for field-officers of the six battalions raised in that colony, Congress proceeded to a choice, and the following gentlemen were elected:

Francis Nash, esq. colonel, Thomas Clarke, esq. lieutenant-colonel, William Davis, esq. major, of the 1st battalion.

Alexander Martin, esq. colonel, John Patton, esq. lieutenant-colonel, John White, esq. major, of the second battalion.

Jethro Sumner, esq. colonel, William Alston, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Samuel Lockart, esq. major, of the 3d battalion.

Thomas Polk, esq. colonel, James Thackston, esq. lieutenant-colonel, William Davidson, esq. major, of the 4th battalion.

Edward Bancombe, esq. colonel, Henry Irwin, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Levi Dawson, esq. major, of the 5th battalion.

Alexander Lillington, esq. colonel, William Taylor, esq. lieutenant-colonel, Gideon Lamb, esq. major, of the 6th battalion.

*Ordered*, That the letter received yesterday from general Lee, be referred to the committee to whom were referred the letters received this morning.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to purchase stockings for the troops in Canada, be directed to apply to the general assemblies of Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, and request them to assist in procuring the said stockings.

Congress took into consideration the memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That twenty of the heaviest cannon, taken by commodore Hopkins, at New-Providence, and brought from thence to New-London, and since carried to Newport, be brought to the city of Philadelphia, and delivered to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, for the defence and protection of the said city; to remain there during the pleasure of Congress.

William Peachy, esq. colonel of the fifth Virginia battalion, having resigned, Congress proceeded to elect a gentleman to supply his place; and, the ballots being taken,

Charles Scott, esq. was elected; and,

Alexander Spotswood was elected lieutenant-colonel of the second battalion, in the room of colonel Scott.

*Resolved*, That such of the iron cannon, as was brought from Ticonderoga to Boston, and have not been removed by general Washington, be lent for the defence of the town and harbor of Boston, to remain there during the pleasure of Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1776.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To William Brady for thirty days wagonage in conveying captain Stevenson's baggage from Virginia to Roxbury, the sum of 60 dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to Daniel M'Pherson.

To James M'Donnel, for wagonage, in conveying baggage belonging to captain Talbot's company of the sixth Pennsylvania battalion, to New-York, the sum of 117.9 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A letter of the 5th from general Washington, one of the 4th from William Palfrey, pay-master general, and one of the 2d from captain Delaplace, a prisoner, were laid before Congress and read.

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Rodney, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Whipple.

A petition from captain Gideon Warren, and a letter from Joseph Woodward, chairman of the committee of New-Hampshire grants, were presented to Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of five, who are directed to hear the persons mentioned in the said letter, and report thereon to Congress:

The members chosen, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Alexander.

The instructions given by the naval committee to commodore Hopkins, being laid before Congress, and read,

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of seven; and that it be an instruction to the said committee, to enquire how far commodore Hopkins has complied with the said instructions, and if, upon enquiry, they shall find that he has departed therefrom, to examine into the occasion thereof; also, to enquire into the situation of the governor and lieutenant-governor of Providence, and the other officer, brought from thence, and report what, in their opinion, is proper to be done with them:

That the said committee have power to send for witnesses and papers:

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Duane, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. W. Livingston.

Information being given to Congress, that Kirkland, a prisoner, has broken gaol and made his escape,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means to have him retaken:

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Gerry.

*Resolved*, That whenever it shall appear to this Congress, that any officer or officers, bearing continental commissions, shall have departed from orders, an enquiry shall be made.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to Aaron Biddle and John Helm, 75 lbs. powder, for the use of the inhabitants of Upper-Pennsneck, in New-Jersey.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the colonies; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter to them

referred, but not having come to any resolutions thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of these colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *May* 9, 1776.

A letter from Ab. Livingston, offering to resign the contract made with the convention of New-York, for supplying the troops, in that colony, with provisions; also, a letter of the 8th from colonel James Easton, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Wythe.

Application being made for a safe conduct for Mrs. Bellew, wife of captain Bellew, of the Liverpool, to pass through the country to her relations in Marblehead,

*Ordered*, That it be referred for consideration to Mr. R. H. Lee and Mr. R. Morris.

The committee of claims report, that there is due,

To Wm. Bedford, for cartouch straps, the sum of 193.3 dollars:

To colonel Jos. Read, for camp equipage, &c. procured for general Washington, the sum of 434.2 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The said committee having reported on the petition and accounts of captain Herman Allen, which were referred to them,

*Resolved*; That the said petition and accounts be referred to the committee on the treasury.

The committee on prisoners, to whom the letter from Henry Beaumont, of the 26th regiment of the king of Great-Britain, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said Henry Beaumont be permitted to reside with his wife and family at Elizabeth-town, in the colony of New-Jersey, he giving to the committee of inspection and observation of the said borough, his parole, in the form prescribed by Congress.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for raising ten millions of dollars for the service of the current year, brought in their report, which was read and considered: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That five millions of dollars be emitted in bills of credit, in part of the ten millions voted for the service of the current year:

That the thirteen United Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the said five millions of dollars, at such periods, and in such manner and proportions as Congress shall hereafter direct and appoint.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the superintendents of the treasury, to consider of and report a plan for carrying into effect the before-mentioned resolution for emitting five millions of dollars in bills of credit, towards the service of the current year.

The committee having informed Congress that they have not had time to complete their report:

*Resolved*, That they have leave to sit again.

Captain Budden having been taken by the Liverpool man of war, and permitted, on his parole, to come to Philadelphia, in order to procure a prisoner to be given in exchange for him,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to consider the propriety of exchanging seamen:

The members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Hewes, and Mr. Huntington.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the United Colonies; and,

after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter referred to them, and have come to a resolution thereon, which he read and delivered in.

The resolution of the committee of the whole was again read, and the determination thereof, at the request of a colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

The committee to whom the application in favor of Mrs. Bellew was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a passport be granted to Mrs. Bellew to come to the city of Philadelphia, under escort of a continental officer, and that she may reside safely and unmolested in the said city, until her friends in New-England come to escort her to Marblehead, when a safe conduct shall also be granted to her for that journey, and for her residence there during her pleasure.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *May* 10, 1776.

A letter of the 7th, from general Washington, and one of the 3d, from Thomas Cushing, were laid before Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the committee on the state of the eastern colonies.

A letter from Monsieur Docaisor was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the secret committee.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of general Washington's letter, of the 5th, and the papers enclosed, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a copy of the resolutions passed the 1st day of April last, establishing the mode of settling the public accounts, be transmitted to the general :

That the resolution of Congress, passed the 17th of January last, allowing one dollar and one-third of a dollar to the officers, in lieu of expenses for inlisting each soldier, being a general regulation, extends to the troops raised in the eastern department ; and that the general be directed to make that allowance for all the troops inlisted since the time of passing the said resolution :

That, as the road recommended by general Washington to be opened between the town of Newbury, on Connecticut river, and the province of Canada, will facilitate the march and return of the troops employed in that quarter, and promote the public service, the general be directed to prosecute the plan he has formed, respecting the said road :

That ten tons of gun-powder be sent to New-York :

That 400,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general for the use of the army in New-York and the Massachusetts-Bay :

That the commanding officers in the different departments and posts, shall make monthly returns to the commander in chief of the continental army, of the number and state of the troops, and the military stores in their respective departments :

That this Congress has hitherto exercised, and ought to retain the power of promoting the officers in the continental service according to their merit ; and that no promotion or succession shall take place upon any vacancy, without the authority of a continental commission.

Congress resumed the consideration of the resolution reported from the committee of the whole, and the same was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the respective assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, where no government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs hath been hitherto established, to adopt such government as shall, in the opinion of the representatives of the people, best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and America in general.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a preamble to the foregoing resolution :

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. R. H. Lee.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to sell to col. David Potter, and capt. Daniel Maskell, 200 lbs. of powder, and 1,000 lbs. of lead for the use of the inhabitants of Bridgetown, Cumberland county, in New-Jersey.

The committee to whom were referred the letter from general Washington of the 25th and 26th of April, the case of Alexander Ross, and the letter from general Lee, brought in a report, which was read.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the eastern colonies, brought in a report, which was read.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the United Colonies ; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter referred to them, but not having had time to finish their enquiries, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

**Resolved**, That Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the United Colonies.

**Resolved**, That the committee of secret correspondence be directed to lay their proceedings before Congress on Monday next, withholding the names of the persons they have employed, or with whom they have corresponded.

The committee appointed to consider the propriety of exchanging seamen, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That lieutenant Ball, of the Roebuck, and the three seamen that were taken with him, and are now prisoners in the lower counties on Delaware, be exchanged for captain Budden and his son, Seth Davis, and Samuel Conyers :

That six of the seamen now prisoners in Philadelphia, to be named by the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, may be given in exchange for the following persons, viz. Mr. Lightbody, James Hage,——Fortescue, a pilot boy; William Martin, Jacob Wilson, and John Durry :

That the said exchange of prisoners be conducted by such proper persons as the committee of safety of Pennsylvania may appoint for that purpose.

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from Ab. Livingston, offering to cancel the contract he had made with a committee of the convention of New-York, for supplying the forces in that colony with provisions, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That Mr. Ab. Livingston, in voluntarily resigning a contract which might have been so profitable to him, has exhibited an example of public spirit, and Congress accept the resignation of his contract.

**Resolved**, That the committee appointed to devise ways and means for retaking Moses Kirkland, be empowered to send an express to the southward, and desire the committees or councils of safety of the southern colonies, to use their utmost endeavours to have him apprehended, and that they offer a reward of one hundred dollars, in addition to the hundred already offered, for apprehending and securing the said Moses Kirkland.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to examine into the conduct of the gaoler, who had the charge and custody of Moses Kirkland, and if they find him culpable, that they have him removed.

**Resolved**, That George Morgan, esq. agent under the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, be directed to purchase the Indian goods, said to be at Pittsburg, for the use of the United Colonies.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the case of Alexander Ross ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said Alexander Ross be discharged from confinement.  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *May* 11, 1776.

A petition from John Jacobs, in behalf of himself and others, was presented to Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Rutledge.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the eastern colonies ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the two battalions, directed by the assembly of Rhode-Island to be raised, be taken into continental pay ; the battalion ordered to be raised in November last, from the time they were armed, clothed, and fit for duty ; and the one since ordered to be raised, from the present time ; provided they be armed, clothed, and fit for service ; and that, if they be not so armed and appointed, they be taken into continental pay, as soon as they shall be armed and mustered :

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved*, That the standing committee for Indian affairs be directed to take measures for carrying into execution the resolution of the 6th, for holding a treaty with the Indians, in the different departments, as soon as practicable.

That the 20th of July be fixed on for holding a treaty, at Pittsburg, with the Indians, in the middle department ; and that the standing committee be directed to inform the agent, and desire him to notify the Indians, and invite them to attend at the time and place mentioned : and also, that the said committee inform the commissioners, and desire them to attend.

*Resolved*, That John Harvey be appointed a commissioner for Indian affairs in the middle department.

Certain resolutions of the board of officers in Philadelphia, and a petition from the committee of privates of the military association of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, were presented to Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

A memorial from Caunier de la Berthaudure was presented to Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That two sets of trepanning instruments be sent to Virginia for the use of the surgeons of the continental troops there ; and that two sets of trepanning instruments, and 100 lb. of Peruvian bark, be sent to North-Carolina, for the use of the continental troops in that colony.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the colonies in the eastern department, and the resolves of the officers, and petition of the committee of privates of the military association of the city and liberties of Philadelphia ; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matters to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon ; but, not having time to finish, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The resolution reported from the committee of the whole Congress being read,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed to Monday next.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the colonies in the eastern department, and the resolves of the officers, and petition of the privates of the military association of the city and liberties of Philadelphia.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to send 500 lb. of powder to the committee of safety of Delaware government, for the use of their militia.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

On account rendered by the committee for the upper district of Frederick county, in Virginia, of the expenses incurred by captain John Nelson's company of riflemen, the sum of 1415.4 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Michael Fackler, and that the said company ought to be charged with the sum of 1016 dollars, the amount of rifles and goods, &c. furnished for their use, the remainder, being for provisions and wagonage, to be charged to the continent.

To Andrew M'Nair for attendance and for candles, &c. the sum of 181.9 dollars, in full of his account to the 30th of April last:

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for five teams that went to Canada, a balance of 699.6 dollars:

To Walter Drummond, for nursing several persons belonging to captain Benezet's company, the sum of 27 dollars:

To George London, for 34 days wagonage for the 6th battalion, the sum of 117.5 dollars.

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, May 13, 1776.

A letter of the 9th from general Washington, was laid before Congress and read:

**Ordered**, That it be referred to the committee on qualifications.

Sundry petitions were presented to Congress and read, viz. One from Dr. Benjamin Church, and one from Benjamin, Samuel and Edward Church, with a certificate from three physicians respecting the health of Dr. B. Church; also one from John Connolly and John Smith, accompanied with a letter from Dr. Cadwallader:

**Ordered**, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

A letter of the 3d from George Morgan, at Pittsburg, was read:

**Ordered**, That it be referred to the standing committee on Indian affairs.

**Resolved**, That Mrs. Connolly have leave to visit her husband in gaol.

Agreeable to order, the committee of secret correspondence laid before Congress a copy of their proceedings.

The committee appointed to prepare a preamble to the resolution of Congress passed the 10th, brought in a draught, which was read:

**Ordered**, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

A letter of the 4th from Edmund Pendleton, president of the committee of safety of Virginia, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To A. C. Hanson, for the expenses of two gentlemen, a private soldier, and a servant, on an expedition to New-York, the sum of 76.4 dollars:

To Rachel Stille, for boarding prisoners now in Trenton, and including captain Chase's bill of 8.5 dollars, and a bill of wagonage, the sum of 290.9 dollars:

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for wagonage of powder from Egg-harbour to Philadelphia, the sum of 247 dollars:

To Frederick Bicking, for paper for the continental bills of credit, the sum of 1109.3 dollars:

To Gunning Bedford, deputy muster-master general, for his pay and expenses to the 17th of April last, the sum of 455.6 dollars:

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the resolution reported from the committee of the whole; and, after debate, the determination thereof, at the request of a colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, May 14, 1776.**

A letter of the 11th from general Washington, enclosing sundry papers; a letter of the third from general Schuyler, and a letter of the 9th from Daniel Robertson, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. J. Adams.

The committee to whom the petition of Dr. Benjamin Church, now confined in gaol in Norwich, in the colony of Connecticut, and a petition from Benjamin, Samuel, and Edward Church, together with a certificate from physicians, respecting the dangerous state of the aforesaid Dr. Church, were referred, brought in their report, which was read and agreed to: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Dr. Benjamin Church be sent to the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, and that the council of the said colony be requested to take a recognizance from him, with two good sureties, in such penalty as they shall think sufficient, not being less than one thousand pounds, lawful money, for his appearance before such court as shall be erected for his trial, and at such time and place as such court shall direct, and to abide the judgment of the same; and that they be farther requested, to take his parole, not to hold any correspondence with the enemies of the United Colonies, or at any time, to depart out of the said colony, without their license; and that, upon the performance thereof, the said Dr. Benjamin Church be set at liberty.

The assembly of Rhode-Island, having appointed two delegates to represent that colony in Congress, the credentials of their appointment were laid before Congress, and read, as follows:

(L. S.) "The governor and company of the English colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, in general assembly convened, to Stephen Hopkins and William Ellery esqs. greeting: Whereas this assembly, reposing special trust and confidence in your abilities and integrity, have appointed you, the said Stephen Hopkins and William Ellery, delegates, to represent this colony in general Congress; you are, therefore, hereby empowered to join with the delegates of the other United Colonies, in Congress, at Philadelphia, as soon as conveniently may be, or at such time and place as shall be agreed upon by the major part of the delegates from the said colonies. You are also authorized and empowered to consult and advise with the delegates of the said colonies in Congress, upon the most proper measures for promoting and confirming the strictest union and confederation between the said United Colonies, for exerting their whole strength and force to annoy the common enemy, and to secure the said colonies their rights and liberties, both civil and religious, whether by entering into treatise with any prince, state, or potentate, or by such other prudent and effectual ways and means as shall be devised and agreed on; and, in conjunction with the delegates from the said United Colonies, or the major part of them, to enter into and adopt all such measures, taking the greatest care to secure to this colony, in the strongest and most perfect manner, its present established form, and all the powers of government, so far as relates to its internal police and conduct of our own affairs, civil and religious. You are also instructed and directed, to exert your utmost abilities, in carrying on this just and necessary war, in which we are engaged against cruel and unnatural enemies, in the most vigorous manner, until peace shall be restored to the said colonies, and their rights and liberties secured upon a solid and permanent basis. You are also empowered, to join with the major part of the delegates to the said United Colonies, in adjourning, from time to time, and to such place or places as shall be thought proper for and during one year. And, as it may happen, that from sickness or other ne-

cessary causes, one of you may be absent from Congress, in all such cases the other is hereby as fully empowered to represent the colony, as though both were present and agreed in sentiment. May 4, 1776.

In behalf of the general assembly, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the colony to be affixed, the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

NICHOLAS COOKE, Governor."

By his honor's command,

HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

The committee, to whom the letter from general Washington of the 5th, and the letter from captain Delaplace of the 2d, &c. were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That as a number of arms, fit for use, may be bought of the owners, who may incline to sell them, general Washington be desired to employ such an agent as he hath proposed, to go into any of the colonies for that purpose:

That a copy of the letter from captain Delaplace be sent to major-general Schuyler, and that he be desired to enquire how the things, therein mentioned to have been left by captain Delaplace, were disposed of, and what was the value thereof, and report the matter, as it shall appear to him, to Congress:

That the case of captain Delaplace is not distinguishable from that of other prisoners of war, who are obliged to refund the expenses of their maintenance.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Jacob Ford, jun. three tons of salt-petre, to be by him manufactured into gun-powder for the use of the United Colonies, on the same terms as others have agreed to manufacture it:

That the said committee be directed to sell to Joseph Ellis, 400 lb. of powder, and a quantity of iron-ball, sufficient for 900 lb. of powder, for the defence of the colony of New-Jersey:

That the said committee be directed to deliver to colonel Bird, 200 lb. of powder, to prove the cannon he is making for the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to contract for the making of cannon, be directed to employ proper persons to attend and see the cannon proved.

That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the cannon-committee; they to be accountable.

Congress then resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the five battalions, now in Massachusetts-Bay, be recruited to their full complements, and that three additional battalions be raised in the eastern department, for the service of the continent, the recruits to be taken into continental pay, so soon as they shall be armed and mustered.

A letter of the 7th from general Lee, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration a former letter of general Lee.

Martin Strobach, lieutenant of marines on board the Hornet sloop, finding the service by sea to disagree with him, and apprehending he can be of more use in the land service, begs permission to be discharged from the present service he is engaged in, that he may apply for a lieutenancy in the Pennsylvania artillery company, where there is a vacancy, which he is encouraged to make application for:

*Resolved*, That leave be granted to discharge him.

Agreeable to order, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the report of the committee on the eastern department, &c. and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had

under their farther consideration the matters referred to them, and have come to sundry resolutions ; but, that not having yet finished, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The resolutions reported from the committee of the whole Congress, being read, were agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That an additional major-general and brigadier-general be appointed in the continental army :

That general Washington be directed to order a major-general forthwith to take the command in the eastern department, and also that he order a brigadier-general on that service.

*Resolved*, That the election of the major-general and brigadier-general be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the resolves of the officers and petition of the committee of privates of the military association of the city and liberties of Philadelphia.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee, to whom the letter from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire, and other papers from that colony, were referred ; and, thereupon,

*Resolved*, That one battalion be raised in New-Hampshire for the service of the United Colonies, and paid and subsisted on the same terms as the continental troops in the eastern department ; the said battalion to be taken into continental pay, so soon as they shall be armed and mustered.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send to general Washington, the muskets that are at Newport.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *May* 15, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be desired to write to the committee of safety of Delaware government, to suspend the execution of the resolve of Congress, for exchanging lieutenant Ball for captain Budden, till farther orders.

Congress took into consideration the draught of the preamble brought in by the committee, which was agreed to as follows :

Whereas his Britannic majesty, in conjunction with the lords and commons of Great-Britain, has, by a late act of parliament, excluded the inhabitants of these United Colonies from the protection of his crown ; and whereas, no answer, whatever, to the humble petition of the colonies for redress of grievances and reconciliation with Great-Britain, has been or is likely to be given ; but, the whole force of that kingdom, aided by foreign mercenaries, is to be exerted for the destruction of the good people of these colonies ; and whereas, it appears absolutely irreconcilable to reason and good conscience, for the people of these colonies now to take the oaths and affirmations necessary for the support of any government under the crown of Great-Britain, and it is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said crown should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government exerted, under the authority of the people of the colonies, for the preservation of internal peace, virtue, and good order, as well as for the defence of their lives, liberties, and properties, against the hostile invasions and cruel depredations of their enemies ; therefore, resolved, &c.

*Ordered*, That the said preamble, with the resolution passed the 10th instant, be published.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to Edward Keasby, 100 lbs. of powder, for the use of the inhabitants of Salem county, in New-Jersey.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, May 16, 1776.**

The following letters were laid before Congress, and read :

One of the 1st, from the commissioners of Congress in Canada :

One of the 10th, from major-general Schuyler, and one, without date, from general Washington, enclosing a letter to him from Dr. Stringer.

*Resolved*, That the letter from Dr. Stringer to general Washington, be referred to the committee appointed to prepare medicine chests :

That the other letters be referred to Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. J. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the president write to general Washington, requesting him to repair to Philadelphia as soon as he can conveniently, in order to consult with Congress upon such measures as may be necessary for the carrying on the ensuing campaign.

*Resolved*, That George Morgan, esq. be empowered to draw for a sum not exceeding six thousand dollars, to pay for the goods he is ordered to purchase, and for defraying incidental charges; the same to be paid out of the ten thousand dollars voted for the commissioners of Indian affairs in the middle department.

Whereas captain Richard Butler, by accepting the office of agent in the middle department of Indians, has lost the opportunity of being appointed a captain in the continental service ;

*Resolved*, That Congress will, as soon as possible, compensate for that disappointment to him, by some promotion in their service.

Congress then proceeded to the election of a major-general and brigadier-general in the continental army; and, the ballots being taken and examined,

Horatio Gates, esq. was elected major-general; and,

Thomas Mifflin, esq. brigadier-general.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Duane be added to the standing committee for Indian affairs.

A petition from Joseph Carson and Joseph Donaldson, was presented to Congress, and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the petitioners 50 lb. of powder.

*Resolved*, That two of the additional battalions, ordered on the 14th to be raised in the eastern department, be raised, one in Massachusetts-Bay, and the other in Connecticut :

That it be recommended to the general assemblies of Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, to endeavor to have the battalions inlisted for two years, unless sooner discharged by Congress; in which case, the men to be allowed one month's pay on their discharge; but, if the men cannot be prevailed on to inlist for two years, that they be inlisted for one; and that they be ordered, as soon as raised and armed, to march immediately to Boston.

The committee, to whom the letters from general Washington of the 25th and 26th of April, and the case of Alexander Ross, and the letter from general Lee, were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the letter from general Washington of the 11th, and the letter from general Schuyler of the 3d, and that from captain Robertson of the 9th, with other papers, were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Saturday.

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SATURDAY, *May* 18, 1776.

A letter of the 17th from general Washington, and three from the commissioners in Canada, of the 6th, 8th and 10th, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the committee, to whom the former letter from the commissioners was referred, be augmented to the number of eight; and, that these letters be referred to them:

The additional members chosen, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Duane, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. R. R. Livingston.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of general Lee's letters of the 19th of April and 7th of May, brought in their report, which was agreed to: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Lee's scheme of sending through the colony of Virginia to purchase rifles, be, and is, approved:

That, as the colony of Virginia is intersected with many navigable rivers, six galleys be built for the protection of the troops in their transportation across the said rivers, at the continental expense, on as cheap terms as the business for which they are intended will admit of; that such other defence of the rivers and bays, as shall be requisite for the colony, be at the particular charge of the inhabitants thereof; And, that general Lee, or the commanding officer in Virginia, transmit to Congress, as early as possible, an account of the expense which shall be incurred in consequence of this resolution:

That general Lee, or the commanding officer in Virginia, be directed to set on foot the raising of two companies of carpenters, to consist of house and ship builders:

That general Lee be permitted to order rations and forage for such volunteers of horse, not exceeding 500, as shall think proper to attend the service of their country in the continental army, agreeable to general Lee's request and proposal:

That captain Dohicky Arundel's journey, to Virginia, be at his own, not continental expense:

That the pay of the deputy-engineers be raised to 30 dollars a month, and that they be allowed rations for themselves, and forage for their horses, when in camp, or necessarily absent on continental duty:

That a continental hospital be established in Virginia, and a director to the same immediately appointed by Congress:

That the scheme of adding two subalterns and forty privates to the company of artillery, be adopted:

That the circumstances of affairs in the middle and eastern department will not admit of Mr. Smith being sent to general Lee:

That Thomas Bullet, esq. the deputy adjutant-general in Virginia, be advanced to the rank of colonel:

That from the uncertainty of the enemy's design, and the number of regiments already sent into Canada, it will be inexpedient, at present, to order any of the troops, raised in Pennsylvania, or the colonies eastward thereof, to the southern department; nor, can Congress, at present, supply such troops as are raised in Virginia, with fire arms; but, that general Lee's application, on this subject, be attended to so soon as an importation, sufficiently considerable, will admit of his being supplied; and, that he be assured, Congress will co-operate and aid him with their power, to render effectual his laudable endeavors to establish the rights and liberties of the good people of this continent.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a director of the hospital in Virginia; and, the ballots being taken,

William Rickman was elected.

*Resolved*, That the hospital in Virginia be on the same establishment, and the pay of the officers thereof, the same, as the hospital established in the eastern department:

That two surgeons, one apothecary, six mates, one clerk, one store-keeper, and a nurse to every ten sick, with labourers occasionally, when necessary, be allowed to the hospital in Virginia:

That the director be empowered to nominate the surgeons and apothecary:

That the mates be appointed by the surgeons, and that the number of the mates be diminished as circumstances will admit; for which reason, the pay fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of Virginia, to raise a battalion of riflemen, on the same terms as the other battalions raised in the colony; to be taken into the pay of the continent, when armed and mustered.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed, if the service will permit, to station a battalion at Amboy.

A petition from Jos. Trumbull, commissary-general, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee for superintending the treasury.

The secret committee having informed Congress of the arrival of one of the vessels fitted out at the expense of the continent, and that she has brought her returns in cash,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to give orders for sending the said cash, with all convenient despatch, to the commissioners in Canada:

That the hard money in the treasury be immediately forwarded to general Schuyler.

The secret committee laid before Congress a letter from Mr. Langdon; the same being read,

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee of secret correspondence, and that the said committee be directed to apply to the marine committee for the use of one or more of the continental fleet; and that they send the same to the French West-India islands, in order to procure, if possible, a number of muskets, not exceeding 10,000.

A petition from Ignace Isabal was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, who are directed to examine his claim, and pay him out of the money put into their hands, what they shall judge justly due to him.

*Resolved*, That Mrs. Connolly be directed not to leave Philadelphia till her father orders of Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

### MONDAY, May 20, 1776.

Lyman Hall and Button Gwinnett, esqrs. two of the delegates from Georgia attended, and produced their credentials; which were read as follows:

"In Congress, Savannah, February 2, 1776. *Resolved*, That five persons be elected to represent this province in the Continental Congress, for the term of nine months. *Resolved*, That it be recommended, that three of the delegates do proceed, with all possible despatch, to Philadelphia, and that they be a quorum: Provided, nevertheless, that in case three shall not attend, by sickness or otherwise, one or more of the delegates being present, shall be competent to represent this province, notwithstanding. The Congress proceeded to ballot for the election of delegates, when, on closing the poll, it appeared that Archibald Bullock, John Houston, Lyman Hall, Button Gwinnett, and George Walton, esqrs. were duly elected, and were accordingly declared as fit persons to represent this province in the grand Continental Congress.

A true copy:

EDWARD LANGWORTHY, Secretary.

A letter, of the 10th, from major-general Lee, at Williamsburg, with three papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Wolcott.

Certain resolutions of the convention of South-Carolina, respecting the battalions raised in that colony ; also, certain resolutions passed by the general assembly of the said colony, respecting the manner in which commissioners, coming from England, are to be received and treated in that colony, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the resolutions respecting the battalions, be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. John Adams, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Floyd. Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr Morton.

The proceedings of the committee of secret correspondence were read.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of the United Colonies ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into their farther consideration the matter referred to them ; but, not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Rutledge, at his request, be discharged from serving on the marine committee, and that Mr. Middleton be a member of the said committee in his stead.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, *May* 21, 1776.

Sundry letters and papers were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

Three letters from general Washington, of the 18th, 19th and 20th, enclosing sundry letters and papers of intelligence from England, and a copy of the treaties made by his Britannic majesty with the duke of Brunswick, for 4,084 of his troops ; with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, for 12,000 of his troops ; and with the count of Hanau for 668 of his troops :

A letter from William Palfrey, with a copy of his weekly account :

A letter from John Langdon to general Washington :

A petition from Samuel Austin, John Rowe, S. Pattridge, Samuel Dashwood, and John Scolly, of Boston :

*Resolved*, That the said letters, and papers and petition, be referred to a committee of five ; that the said committee be directed to extract and publish the treaties, and such parts of the intelligences as they think proper ; also, to consider of an adequate reward for the person who brought the intelligence ; and that they prepare an address to the foreign mercenaries who are coming to invade America :

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Sherman.

Congress took into consideration the report respecting prisoners, which was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That all persons taken in arms on board any prize, be deemed prisoners, to be taken care of by the supreme executive power in each colony to which they are brought, whether the prize be taken by vessels fitted out by the continent, or by others :

That such as are taken, be treated as prisoners of war, but with humanity, and be allowed the same rations as the troops in the service of the United Co-

lonies ; but that such as are officers supply themselves, and be allowed to draw bills to pay for their subsistence and clothing :

That officers made prisoners in the land service, be allowed the same indulgence :

That the officers be not permitted to reside in or near any seaport town, nor public post-road ; and that the officers and privates be not suffered to reside in the same places :

That in case the officers cannot draw or sell their bills, the Congress will allow for each of them, two dollars a week for board and lodgings, to be repaid by said officers before they are released from their captivity :

That no tavern-keepers supply any officers, who are prisoners, on the credit of the continent :

That the capitulations entered into with prisoners, at the time of their surrender, be punctually observed :

That such officers as surrender prisoners of war, be put on their parole, unless Congress shall otherwise direct :

That the form of the parole be as follows :

I ———, being made a prisoner of war by the army of the thirteen United Colonies, in North-America, do promise and engage, on my word and honor, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to ———, in the province of ———, being the place of my destination and residence, and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between Great-Britain and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the assembly, convention, or committee, or council of safety of the said colony, shall order otherwise ; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said colonies, during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged. Given under my hand, this day of A. D. 1776.

That the said parole be signed by the officers :

That such as refuse to subscribe the parole, be committed to prison :

That David Franks, esq. agent to the contractors for victualling the troops of the king of Great-Britain, be permitted to supply the prisoners with provisions and other necessaries, and to sell his bills for such sums of money as are necessary for that purpose :

And, to enable him to do this to the satisfaction of his employers, that a commissioned officer be permitted, once a month, to visit the prisoners so victualled and supplied, in order to count their numbers and certify the rolls :

That such of the prisoners as are not supplied by Mr. Franks, be furnished with provisions not exceeding the rations allowed to privates in the service of the continent.

That the women and children belonging to prisoners, be furnished with subsistence, and supplied with firing and other things absolutely necessary for their support :

That no prisoners be inlisted in the continental army :

That the prisoners be permitted to exercise their trades, and to labor, in order to support themselves and families :

That the committees of inspection and observation, for the counties, districts, or towns, assigned for the residence of prisoners, be empowered to superintend their conduct, and, in cases of gross misbehavior, to confine them, and report to their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees, or councils of safety, the proceedings had on such occasions :

That a list of the prisoners in each colony be made out by the committees of the counties, towns, or districts where they reside, and transmitted to the assembly, convention, or council or committee of safety of such colony, respectively, who shall send a copy thereof to Congress.

That the said assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety, be empowered to contract, with proper persons, for the most reasonable terms for supplying such of the prisoners, their wives and children, in their respective colony, as are not supplied by Mr. Franks :

That the said assemblies, conventions, and committees or councils of safety, be authorized and requested, to take the paroles of the officers, and to cause a strict observance of the terms on which they are enlarged, and also to take especial care, that none of those confined by order of the Congress, be suffered to escape ; also, to advance the allowance of two dollars a week to each of the officers who cannot draw or sell their bills, and to draw for the same on the president of the Congress :

That the said assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety of the colonies, respectively, in which prisoners are or shall choose or be appointed to reside, be empowered to remove such prisoners from place to place, within the same colonies, as often as to such assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former resolutions of Congress concerning prisoners.

The committee, to whom the letter, of the 10th, from general Lee, was referred, brought in their report, which was read, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till the arrival of general Washington.

A letter from Allan M'Donald, a prisoner at Reading, to John Nixon, esq. president of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee to whom the letters from general Washington, major-general Schuyler, and the commissioners in Canada, were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee for superintending the treasury, to whom it was referred to consider and report a plan for carrying into effect the resolution of Congress for emitting five millions of dollars, brought in their report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *May 22*, 1776.

A petition from James M'Knight was presented to Congress, and read.

A report being made on the petition of P. Simons, the same was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it appears James M'Knight hath proceeded in the sale of the sloop Sally and her cargo, contrary to the mode prescribed, and without any authority from Congress :

That the resolution passed the 4th of April, "empowering the committee of inspection and observation of the county of Burlington, to make sale of the sloop Sally and the cargo on board, and to pay one-half of the net proceeds to James M'Knight for salvage, and retain the other half for the owner or owners," be set aside.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the marine committee, to procure an exact account of the number and weight of the cannon lately taken at Providence.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on the letters from general Washington, &c. received the 16th and 18th ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the instructions given to Mr. Price by major-general Schuyler be approved : That general Schuyler be directed to take any farther measures for supplying the army in Canada with provisions, which his prudence may suggest, in which Congress place the highest confidence :

That general Schuyler be informed of the difficulty of procuring specie, and directed, as far as possible, to remedy that inconvenience, by purchasing such

necessaries as can be obtained in these colonies, and to appoint store-keepers and other officers, for the sale and distribution thereof:

That general Schuyler be informed, that Congress have in view these two great objects, the protection and assistance of our Canadian friends, and the securing so much of that country as may prevent any communication between our enemies and the Indians: The means of effecting these purposes by fortifying proper posts, building armed vessels where most expedient, opening roads of communication or otherwise, are left to the determination of a council or councils of war, governing themselves by events and their knowledge of the country:

That general Washington, or the commanding officer at New-York, be directed to send from thence to Ticonderoga, so many light cannon as will be sufficient to arm the vessels now in lake Champlain:

That the attention of the commissioners in Canada to the restoration of order and discipline, and to the punishment of those by whom they are violated, deserves the approbation of Congress:

That the specie now in the treasury, and as much more as can be procured, not exceeding the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, to be immediately remitted to the commissioners for the payment of debts due from these colonies in Canada, and for the preservation of public credit:

That the commissioners in Canada be directed, if necessary, to appoint proper persons to collect and audit the public accounts in that province:

That the commissioners in Canada, and general Schuyler, be informed, that we cannot give them any assurance of maintaining our army there by hard money; but, that this ought not to discourage our operations, Congress being determined to send, from these colonies, supplies of provisions and all other necessaries, if hard money cannot be obtained; and that, in the mean time the best endeavors shall be used to procure the sum of one hundred thousand dollars:

That some person or persons be employed by the president in New-England, as an agent or agents, to procure, if possible, hard money, to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and as soon as a considerable sum is obtained, the said agents be directed to transmit the same to the commissioners of Congress in Canada, for the use of the army there, and in case of the absence of the commissioners, the same to be delivered to the deputy pay-master general:

That such presents be made to the Indians on the delivery of the hatchet, as the commissioners in Canada think prudent:

That 500,000 dollars be sent as soon as possible to general Schuyler.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

On sundry certificates exhibited by Joseph Donaldson, the sum of 467.6 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Robert M'Pherson, esq. and

Captain Dowdle's company, charged with	-	-	-	13 1-3 dollars.
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Captain Nelson's company, charged with	-	-	-	26.8
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Captain James Grier, for a rifle, with	-	-	-	9 1-3
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Captain Cressop's company, for rifles, with	-	-	-	24.5
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Captain Stevenson's company with	-	-	-	8 2-3
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The remainder to the continent:

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for transporting salt-petre from Egg-Harbor, the sum of 117.4 dollars:

To Robert Patton, for 163 days attendance as a messenger, the sum of 102.2 dollars:

To Hugh Hodge, for medicines for the third Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 27.4 dollars:

To Samuel Kennedy, surgeon to the fourth Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 14.1 dollars:

To Michael Whitman, for provision furnished prisoners from St. John's the sum of £ 1 15 6, Pennsylvania currency, and that the same ought to be

aid to Adam Kimmel, together with two-thirds of a dollar omitted to be charged in a former account rendered by him, the whole amounting to 5.3 dollars.

On several accounts rendered by major Nicholas Hausegger, for necessaries for the fourth Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 203.7 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to him :

To Christian Levy, for a rifle, the sum of 8 dollars, which ought to be charged to captain Nelson :

To major Nicholas Hausegger, for divers expenses paid by him, the sum of 4.4 dollars :

To John Barnes for boarding officers, prisoners at Trenton, the sum of 77.3 dollars ; of which sum,

Dr. Nuddleston to be charged with	-	-	-	-	-	24 dollars.
Lieutenant Namar,	-	-	-	-	-	24 do.
Major Regonville,	-	-	-	-	-	16 do.
Lieutenant Symes,	-	-	-	-	-	13.3 do.

On several accounts exhibited by Lewis Gordon, esq. for sundry necessities furnished by Northampton committee to captain Nelson's and captain Craig's companies, the sum of 1310.1 dollars ; of which there ought to be charged,

To captain Craig's company,	-	-	-	-	1205.7 dollars.
And to captain Nelson's company,	-	-	-	-	7.2 do.

The remainder to the continent :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to appoint an assistant-clerk to his secretary, with the pay of 40 dollars per month.

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,500 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of Connecticut, to be by them transmitted to the governor and council of the said colony, for the use of the battalion ordered to be raised there by a resolution of the 16th instant, the said governor and council to be accountable.

That an order for 21,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the delegates of Massachusetts-Bay, to be by them transmitted to the assembly of the said colony, for the use of the two battalions ordered to be raised there by the resolution above mentioned, the said assembly to be accountable.

That the pay of the said three battalions commence from the time they are armed and mustered :

That an order for 10,500 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of New-Hampshire, to be then transmitted to the council of the said colony, for the use of the battalion ordered to be raised there, by a resolution of the 14th instant, the said council to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee for superintending the treasury : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the five millions of dollars, directed to be emitted in continental bills of credit, shall consist of the following denominations :

138,889	-	-	of 1 dollar.	138,889	-	-	of 5 dollars.
138,889	-	-	of 2 dollars.	138,889	-	-	of 6 dollars.
138,889	-	-	of 3 dollars.	138,889	-	-	of 7 dollars.
138,889	-	-	of 4 dollars.	138,889	-	-	of 8 dollars.

That the inspectors of the press for the last emission, be directed and authorized, to perform that service for the present emission, being first qualified agreeable to the resolution of Congress, passed the 21st of February last :

That the gentlemen appointed to sign and number the bills of credit of the last emission, be authorized to sign and number the bills of credit of five millions of dollars now agreed to be emitted, taking, before they shall enter upon their office, the oath or affirmation prescribed by the resolution of Congress of the 9th of March last :

cessary causes, one of you may be absent from Congress, in all such cases the other is hereby as fully empowered to represent the colony, as though both were present and agreed in sentiment. May 4, 1776.

In behalf of the general assembly, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the colony to be affixed, the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

NICHOLAS COOKE, Governor."

By his honor's command,

HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

The committee, to whom the letter from general Washington of the 5th, and the letter from captain Delaplace of the 2d, &c. were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That as a number of arms, fit for use, may be bought of the owners, who may incline to sell them, general Washington be desired to employ such an agent as he hath proposed, to go into any of the colonies for that purpose:

That a copy of the letter from captain Delaplace be sent to major-general Schuyler, and that he be desired to enquire how the things, therein mentioned to have been left by captain Delaplace, were disposed of, and what was the value thereof, and report the matter, as it shall appear to him, to Congress:

That the case of captain Delaplace is not distinguishable from that of other prisoners of war, who are obliged to refund the expenses of their maintenance.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Jacob Ford, jun. three tons of salt-petre, to be by him manufactured into gun-powder for the use of the United Colonies, on the same terms as others have agreed to manufacture it:

That the said committee be directed to sell to Joseph Ellis, 400 lb. of powder, and a quantity of iron-ball, sufficient for 900 lb. of powder, for the defence of the colony of New-Jersey:

That the said committee be directed to deliver to colonel Bird, 200 lb. of powder, to prove the cannon he is making for the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to contract for the making of cannon, be directed to employ proper persons to attend and see the cannon proved:

That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the cannon-committee; they to be accountable.

Congress then resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the five battalions, now in Massachusetts-Bay, be recruited to their full complements, and that three additional battalions be raised in the eastern department, for the service of the continent, the recruits to be taken into continental pay, so soon as they shall be armed and mustered.

A letter of the 7th from general Lee, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration a former letter of general Lee.

Martin Strobach, lieutenant of marines on board the Hornet sloop, finding the service by sea to disagree with him, and apprehending he can be of more use in the land service, begs permission to be discharged from the present service he is engaged in, that he may apply for a lieutenancy in the Pennsylvania artillery company, where there is a vacancy, which he is encouraged to make application for:

*Resolved*, That leave be granted to discharge him.

Agreeable to order, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the report of the committee on the eastern department, &c. and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Trumbull, esq. commissary-general, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration and agreed to; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That there be allowed to the several persons under mentioned, employed in the commissary-general's department, in the continental army, the wages and rations annexed to their names respectively, during the time they have been, and shall continue, in the service of the United Colonies:

*In the issuing store at Cambridge:*

Charles Miller, issuing store-keeper, 50 dollars per month, and 4 rations :  
 Peter Roe Dalton, first clerk, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 Ebenezer Perry, and Thomas Durant, clerks in store, 3s 4 do. and 2 rations :  
 William Brown, and Josiah Brown, clerks at scales, 3s 4 do. and 2 do rations :  
 Robert Davis, clerk of weekly allowances, 3s 4 do. and 2 do.  
 Eight laborers, one cooper, and one cook, each 2s 8, lawful money, a day, and 1 ration :

Employed to issue to two brigades.

*In the store at Roxbury :*

Aaron Blaney, issuing store-keeper, 50 dollars per month, and 4 rations :  
 James Richardson, first clerk, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 Two clerks in store, and two at scales, each 3s 4 do. and 2 rations :  
 Six labourers, one cooper and one cook, each 2s 8 do. and 1 do.  
 Employed to issue to two brigades.

*On Prospect Hill :*

Peter Philips, issuing store-keeper, 40 dollars a month, and 4 rations :  
 Griffin Green, first clerk, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 One clerk in store, and one at scales, each 3s 4, lawful money, a day, and 2 rations :  
 One cooper, and four laborers, each 2s 8 do. and 1 do.  
 Employed to issue to one brigade.

*At Medford :*

Moses Emerson, issuing store-keeper, 40 dollars a month, and 4 rations :  
 Israel Mead, first clerk, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 One clerk in store, and one at scales, 3s 4 do. and 2 do.  
 One cooper, and four laborers, each 2s 8 do. and 1 do.  
 Employed to issue to one brigade.

*In the magazine at Cambridge :*

Samuel Gray, Reuben Stiles, and Daniel Brown, clerks and magazine keepers, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 One cooper, 2s 8, lawful money, a day, and 1 ration.

*In the magazine at Roxbury :*

Jabez Porter, and James Jauncey Pendleton, clerks and magazine keepers, 4s 8, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :  
 One cooper, 2s 8 do. and 1 do.

Joseph Farnsworth, commissary to colonel Arnold's detachment, returned from Fort-Halifax, £ 10, lawful money, a month, and 3 rations per day :

John Thomas, employed constantly in riding to collect stores, procure teams, &c. himself and horse, 8s, lawful money, a day, and 3 rations :

William Hoskins, and Elisha Avery, principal book-keepers and payers of small bills, £ 10, lawful money a month, and 3 rations per day.

*Resolved*, That an addition of forty dollars a month be made to the pay of the commissary-general.

The committee appointed to confer with his excellency general Washington, major-general Gates, and brigadier-general Mifflin, brought in their report; which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to: Whereupon,

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, May 16, 1776.**

The following letters were laid before Congress, and read :

One of the 1st, from the commissioners of Congress in Canada :

One of the 10th, from major-general Schuyler, and one, without date, from general Washington, enclosing a letter to him from Dr. Stringer.

*Resolved*, That the letter from Dr. Stringer to general Washington, be referred to the committee appointed to prepare medicine chests :

That the other letters be referred to Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. J. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the president write to general Washington, requesting him to repair to Philadelphia as soon as he can conveniently, in order to consult with Congress upon such measures as may be necessary for the carrying on the ensuing campaign.

*Resolved*, That George Morgan, esq. be empowered to draw for a sum not exceeding six thousand dollars, to pay for the goods he is ordered to purchase and for defraying incidental charges; the same to be paid out of the ten thousand dollars voted for the commissioners of Indian affairs in the middle department.

Whereas captain Richard Butler, by accepting the office of agent in the middle department of Indians, has lost the opportunity of being appointed captain in the continental service ;

*Resolved*, That Congress will, as soon as possible, compensate for that appointment to him, by some promotion in their service.

Congress then proceeded to the election of a major-general and brigadier-general in the continental army; and, the ballots being taken and examined,

Horatio Gates, esq. was elected major-general; and,

Thomas Mifflin, esq. brigadier-general.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Duane be added to the standing committee for Indian affairs.

A petition from Joseph Carson and Joseph Donaldson, was presented to Congress, and read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to the petitioners 50 lb. of powder.

*Resolved*, That two of the additional battalions, ordered on the 14th to be raised in the eastern department, be raised, one in Massachusetts-Bay, and the other in Connecticut :

That it be recommended to the general assemblies of Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, to endeavor to have the battalions inlisted for two years, or less sooner discharged by Congress; in which case, the men to be allowed one month's pay on their discharge; but, if the men cannot be prevailed on to inlist for two years, that they be inlisted for one; and that they be ordered as soon as raised and armed, to march immediately to Boston.

The committee, to whom the letters from general Washington of the 20th and 26th of April, and the case of Alexander Ross, and the letter from general Lee, were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The committee to whom the letter from general Washington of the 11th, and the letter from general Schuyler of the 3d, and that from captain Robertson of the 9th, with other papers, were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Saturday.

**Resolved**, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of James Mease, commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable :

That Mr. J. Mease be directed to provide a stock of shoes, hats, and stockings for the use of the troops in the continental service, on the most reasonable terms.

A petition from James M'Knight was presented to Congress and read.

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of inspection and observation of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, was presented to Congress and read :

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

**Ordered**, That a copy of said memorial be delivered to Mr. R. Morris, who desires the same in behalf of the assembly of Pennsylvania.

**Resolved**, That an order for 65,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the delegates of Virginia, for the use of the battalions raised in that colony, the said colony to be accountable.

Agreeable to order, general Washington attended, and after some conference with him,

**Resolved**, That a committee be appointed to confer with his excellency gen. Washington, major-general Gates, and brigadier-general Mifflin, and to concert a plan of military operations for the ensuing campaign.

The members appointed, Mr. Harrison, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wilson, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Whipple, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Read, Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Middleton, and Mr. Hall.

The committee of safety of Pennsylvania, to whom were referred the letter from the convention of North-Carolina, and the list of the prisoners sent from thence, having appointed colonel Roberdeau to wait upon Congress and inform them that the prisoners are arrived, and that they have ordered them to be closely confined, and have appointed an officer's guard for their better security ; and farther, to enquire what allowance for subsistence is to be granted them :

**Resolved**, That the disposition of the prisoners, made by the committee of safety, is approved, and that they have the allowance granted to other officers who are prisoners.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter from general Washington, of the 11th of May, the letter from general Schuyler, of the 3d, and the letter from captain Daniel Robertson, of the royal Highland emigrant regiment, of the 9th, which was in part agreed to : Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That lieutenant-colonel Burbeck be dismissed from the continental service.

That a letter be witten to the president of the convention of Virginia, requesting that they will immediately forward to Philadelphia such quantity of lead as can be spared from that colony :

That one battalion of Germans be raised for the service of the United Colonies :

That general Schuyler be empowered to increase the number of batteaus to two hundred :

That four of the prisoners taken at St. Johns, and suggested, by the letter from captain Robertson, to have inlisted in the continental army, viz.

William Roughhead and Elisha Grisler, in captain Hubley's company ; John Stanton, in captain Brown's company ; and John Mayot, in a company unknown, be dismissed the service and return to their corps at Lancaster.

**Resolved**, That the consideration of the first paragraph in said report be postponed, and that the third and fifth paragraphs be referred to the committee appointed to confer with the generals.

That two surgeons, one apothecary, six mates, one clerk, one store-keeper, and a nurse to every ten sick, with labourers occasionally, when necessary, be allowed to the hospital in Virginia:

That the director be empowered to nominate the surgeons and apothecary:

That the mates be appointed by the surgeons, and that the number of mates be diminished as circumstances will admit; for which reason, the pay be fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of Virginia, to raise a battalion of riflemen, on the same terms as the other battalions raised in the colony; to be taken into the pay of the continent, when armed and mustered.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed, if the service will permit, to station a battalion at Amboy.

A petition from Jos. Trumbull, commissary-general, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee for superintending the treasury.

The secret committee having informed Congress of the arrival of one of the vessels fitted out at the expense of the continent, and that she has brought her returns in cash,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to give orders for sending the said cash, with all convenient despatch, to the commissioners in Canada:

That the hard money in the treasury be immediately forwarded to general Schuyler.

The secret committee laid before Congress a letter from Mr. Langdon; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee of secret correspondence, and that the said committee be directed to apply to the marine committee for the use of one or more of the continental fleet; and that they send the same to the French West-India islands, in order to procure, if possible, a number of muskets, not exceeding 10,000.

A petition from Ignace Isabal was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, who are directed to examine his claim, and pay him out of the money put into their hands, what they shall judge justly due to him.

*Resolved*, That Mrs. Connolly be directed not to leave Philadelphia till further orders of Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

### MONDAY, May 20, 1776.

Lyman Hall and Button Gwinnett, esqrs. two of the delegates from Georgia attended, and produced their credentials; which were read as follows:

"In Congress, Savannah, February 2, 1776. *Resolved*, That five persons be elected to represent this province in the Continental Congress, for the term of nine months. *Resolved*, That it be recommended, that three of the delegates do proceed, with all possible despatch, to Philadelphia, and that they be a quorum: Provided, nevertheless, that in case three shall not attend, by sickness or otherwise, one or more of the delegates being present, shall be competent to represent this province, notwithstanding. The Congress proceeded to ballot for the election of delegates, when, on closing the poll, it appeared that Archibald Bullock, John Houston, Lyman Hall, Button Gwinnett, and George Walton, esqrs. were duly elected, and were accordingly declared as fit persons to represent this province in the grand Continental Congress.

A true copy:

EDWARD LANGWORTHY, *Secretary*."

A letter, of the 10th, from major-general Lee, at Williamsburg, with three papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Wolcott.

Certain resolutions of the convention of South-Carolina, respecting the battalions raised in that colony ; also, certain resolutions passed by the general assembly of the said colony, respecting the manner in which commissioners, coming from England, are to be received and treated in that colony, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the resolutions respecting the battalions, be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. John Adams, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Floyd. Mr. W. Livingston, and Mr. Morton.

The proceedings of the committee of secret correspondence were read.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of the United Colonies ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into their farther consideration the matter referred to them ; but, not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Rutledge, at his request, be discharged from serving on the marine committee, and that Mr. Middleton be a member of the said committee in his stead.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, May 21, 1776.

Sundry letters and papers were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

Three letters from general Washington, of the 18th, 19th and 20th, enclosing sundry letters and papers of intelligence from England, and a copy of the treaties made by his Britannic majesty with the duke of Brunswick, for 4,084 of his troops ; with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, for 12,000 of his troops ; and with the count of Hanau for 668 of his troops :

A letter from William Palfrey, with a copy of his weekly account :

A letter from John Langdon to general Washington :

A petition from Samuel Austin, John Rowe, S. Pattridge, Samuel Dashwood, and John Scolly, of Boston :

*Resolved*, That the said letters, and papers and petition, be referred to a committee of five ; that the said committee be directed to extract and publish the treaties, and such parts of the intelligences as they think proper ; also, to consider of an adequate reward for the person who brought the intelligence ; and that they prepare an address to the foreign mercenaries who are coming to invade America :

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Sherman.

Congress took into consideration the report respecting prisoners, which was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That all persons taken in arms on board any prize, be deemed prisoners, to be taken care of by the supreme executive power in each colony to which they are brought, whether the prize be taken by vessels fitted out by the continent, or by others :

That such as are taken, be treated as prisoners of war, but with humanity, and be allowed the same rations as the troops in the service of the United Co-

lonies ; but that such as are officers supply themselves, and be allowed to draw bills to pay for their subsistence and clothing :

That officers made prisoners in the land service, be allowed the same indulgence :

That the officers be not permitted to reside in or near any seaport town, or public post-road ; and that the officers and privates be not suffered to reside in the same places :

That in case the officers cannot draw or sell their bills, the Congress will allow for each of them, two dollars a week for board and lodgings, to be repaid by said officers before they are released from their captivity :

That no tavern-keepers supply any officers, who are prisoners, on the credit of the continent :

That the capitulations entered into with prisoners, at the time of their surrender, be punctually observed :

That such officers as surrender prisoners of war, be put on their parole, unless Congress shall otherwise direct :

That the form of the parole be as follows :

I ———, being made a prisoner of war by the army of the thirteen United Colonies, in North-America, do promise and engage, on my word and honor, and on the faith of a gentleman, to depart from hence to ———, in the province of ———, being the place of my destination and residence, and there, or within six miles thereof, to remain during the present war between Great-Britain and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the assembly, convention, or committee, or council of safety of the said colony, shall order otherwise ; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said colonies, during the present troubles, until I am duly exchanged or discharged. Given under my hand, this     day of     A. D. 1776.

That the said parole be signed by the officers :

That such as refuse to subscribe the parole, be committed to prison :

That David Franks, esq. agent to the contractors for victualling the troops of the king of Great-Britain, be permitted to supply the prisoners with provisions and other necessaries, and to sell his bills for such sums of money as are necessary for that purpose :

And, to enable him to do this to the satisfaction of his employers, that a commissioned officer be permitted, once a month, to visit the prisoners so victualled and supplied, in order to count their numbers and certify the rolls :

That such of the prisoners as are not supplied by Mr. Franks, be furnished with provisions not exceeding the rations allowed to privates in the service of the continent.

That the women and children belonging to prisoners, be furnished with subsistence, and supplied with firing and other things absolutely necessary for their support :

That no prisoners be enlisted in the continental army :

That the prisoners be permitted to exercise their trades, and to labor, in order to support themselves and families :

That the committees of inspection and observation, for the counties, districts, or towns, assigned for the residence of prisoners, be empowered to superintend their conduct, and, in cases of gross misbehavior, to confine them, and report to their respective assemblies, conventions, or committees, or councils of safety, the proceedings had on such occasions :

That a list of the prisoners in each colony be made out by the committees of the counties, towns, or districts where they reside, and transmitted to the assembly, convention, or council or committee of safety of such colony, respectively, who shall send a copy thereof to Congress.

The resolution reported from the committee of the whole Congress being read, was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That the general be authorized to direct the building as many fire-rafts, row-gallies, armed boats, and floating-batteries as may be necessary, and suitable for the immediate defence of the port of New-York, and Hudson's river.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the report of the committee of conference.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *May* 31, 1776.

A letter of the 22d from commodore E. Hopkins, enclosing the proceedings of two courts-martial on John Hazard, commander of the sloop Providence, and Abraham Whipple, commander of the Columbus, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee on the instructions given to commodore Hopkins.

A letter of the 21st from Jonathan Trumbull, deputy pay-master general ; and a petition from Hugh King, in behalf of himself and others, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That an order for 50,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of brigadier-general Mifflin, to enable him to pay for tents, entrenching tools, and sundry other articles, which he, as quarter-master general, has bought in Philadelphia, for the use of the continental army ; he to be accountable.

The committee of conference brought in a farther report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved*, That John Connolly, John Smith, and Allan Cameron, three of the prisoners confined in the gaol of Philadelphia, who are represented to be in a dangerous state of health, be permitted, for the recovery of their health, to walk two hours in the day in the yard of the prison, in company with, or under the inspection of at least two of the guards.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports of the committee of conference ; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have taken into their further consideration the matters to them referred, but, not having yet finished, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports of the committee of conference.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *June* 1, 1776.

Letters from the committees of Hartford and Northampton, in Connecticut, respecting prisoners, being laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the committee on prisoners.

A letter of the 27th of May from governor Trumbull was also read ; and a letter from colonel J. Read, informing, that, upon his arrival at New-York, finding a gentleman of character and abilities performing the services of secretary, with satisfaction to the general, he was induced to request, and has obtained the general's leave, to resign that office.

The committee on Indian affairs, to whom it was referred to consider a proper present for the Indians, brought in their report : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said committee be empowered and directed to purchase goods for a present to the Indians, to an amount not exceeding 426 60-3 dollars.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take in their farther consideration, the report of the committee of conference ; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had taken into further consideration the matters to them referred, and come to some resolutions, which they desired him to report ; but, not having yet come to a conclusion, directed him to move for leave to sit again.

The report from the committee of the whole Congress was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That six thousand militia be employed to reinforce the army in Canada, and to keep up the communication with that province ; to make up which number,

*Resolved*, That the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, be requested to supply of their militia

3000 - 4 battalions.

Connecticut, of their militia

1500 - 2 battalions.

New-Hampshire, of their militia

750 - 1 battalion.

New-York, of their militia

750 - 1 battalion.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed to Monday next.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their further consideration the report of the committee of conference.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Anthony Fricker, for boarding the Scots hostages from the 22<sup>d</sup> of March to the 4<sup>th</sup> of June instant, 246 78-90 dollars :

To Samuel Patterson, for wagon-hire and dining the prisoners brought from North-Carolina, the sum of 7 60-90 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Thomas M'Kean, esq.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday next.

#### MONDAY, June 3, 1776.

Sundry letters received by general Washington, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, for 1066 2-3 dollars, in favor of Ephraim Blaine, esq. in advance, for the purchase of shoes, to be sent to Williamsburg, for the use of the continental army ; he to be accountable.

The committee of conference brought in a farther report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the reports of the committee of conference. and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions thereon, which they have directed him to report ; but, not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The report from the committee of the whole Congress being read, was agreed to : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 13,800 militia be employed to reinforce the army at New York ; to complete which number,

**Resolved,** That the colony of Massachusetts-Bay be requested to furnish of their militia

	2000
Connecticut of their militia	5500
New-York, of their militia	3000
New-Jersey, of their militia	3300

**Resolved,** As the opinion of Congress, that the eleven battalions, raised and ordered to be raised for the protection of the four New-England colonies, are sufficient.

**Resolved,** That a flying camp be immediately established in the middle colonies; and, that it consist of 10,000 men; to complete which number,

**Resolved,** That the colony of Pennsylvania be requested to furnish of their militia

	6000
Maryland, of their militia	3400
Delaware government, of their militia	600

**Resolved,** That the militias be engaged to the first day of December next, unless sooner discharged by Congress;

That the pay of the militias commence from the day of their marching from home, and that they be allowed one penny a mile, lawful money, in lieu of rations, for travelling expenses, and one day's pay for every twenty miles, between home and the general rendezvous, going and returning:

That three major-generals, and two brigadier-generals, be added to the continental establishment of general officers, and that the vacancies in the offices of adjutant-general, and quarter-master general, be filled up:

That the general assembly of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, the governor and assembly of the colony of Connecticut, the conventions of New-York and New-Jersey, and the several conventions of such other of the United Colonies, in which there are any lead-mines, be requested to transmit to Congress, with all convenient despatch, the state and condition of the lead-mines in their respective colonies, and use the most speedy means to procure their being wrought to effect:

That it be earnestly recommended to the assemblies, conventions, and committees of safety of the United Colonies, to fall upon the most effectual means of removing the stock, grain, and meal, from such parts of their respective colonies, as are invaded, or are in imminent danger of being invaded by the enemy.

That two provincial brigadier-generals be employed in the Canada department; one from Massachusetts-Bay, and one from Connecticut:

That four provincial brigadier-generals be employed in the New-York department; one from Massachusetts-Bay, one from Connecticut, one from New-York, and one from New-Jersey:

That three provincial brigadier-generals be employed for the flying-camp; two from Pennsylvania, and one from Maryland:

That the said brigadier-generals be appointed by the respective colonies abovementioned.

That the commander in chief be authorized to form and fix such magazines of provisions and military stores, as he may judge necessary.

**Resolved,** That to-morrow be assigned for electing the three major-generals and the two brigadier-generals, and for filling up the vacancies in the offices of adjutant-general, and quarter-master general.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be empowered to export produce of these colonies to the foreign West-Indies, sufficient to pay for ten thousand stand of arms, ordered to be procured from thence by the committee of secret correspondence.

**Resolved,** That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the report of the committee of conference.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, June 4, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That an order for 800 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Joseph Swift, jun. being in full of a draught the 10th May, in his favor by B. Franklin, S. Chase, and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, commissioners of Canada, for value by them received there, and employed in the public service.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the colonies, requested to supply or furnish militia by the resolutions of yesterday, to take particular care that the militias come provided with arms, accoutrements, and camp kettles.

A letter of the 3d from William Palfrey, pay-master general, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee to whom the letters received the 21st of May last were committed.

A letter of the 31st of May from John Macpherson, was laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to Mr. Read and Mr. M'Kean, who are directed to confer with Mr. Macpherson.

A petition from colonel Turbutt Francis, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of seven.

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Harrison, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Wythe, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Braxton.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver the muskets lately imported, to col. Shee, for the use of his battalion.

*Resolved*, That captain Herman Allen have leave to withdraw the petition by him delivered, in behalf of the inhabitants of the New-Hampshire grants, he representing that he has left at home some papers and vouchers necessary to support the allegations therein contained.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be empowered to negotiate with captain Bellew, on the best terms they can, for an exchange of the prisoners on board the Liverpool; Provided always, that this shall not be construed so as to enable them to deliver up lieutenant Bogar and lieutenant Ball in the exchange.

Agreeable to order, Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports of the committee of conference; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have taken into their farther consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to some farther resolutions thereon, but not having yet come to a conclusion, directed him to move for leave to sit again.

The resolutions agreed to by the committee of the whole Congress, being read,

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports of the committee of conference.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, June 5, 1776.**

A letter of the 2d from major-general Putnam, with sundry letters and papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee on prisoners.

A letter from the committee of Greenwich, in Cumberland county, in New-Jersey, dated the 3d, was laid before Congress and read, informing that the

sloop Betsey and Ann, B. T. master, was arrived there from Bermudas, with 1700 bushels of salt, and two puncheons of rum, which he is desirous of exchanging for provisions, which the inhabitants of Bermuda are in extreme want of: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said master be allowed to exchange his cargo for provisions, and to export the same, under the inspection and direction of the committee of Greenwich, who are desired to take an oath, or such other security as they think proper, of the said master, that he will carry the same to the islands of Bermuda, and will use his utmost endeavors to avoid all English men of war and cutters.

Congress took into consideration the report from the committee of the whole: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to consider what is proper to be done with persons giving intelligence to the enemy, or supplying them with provisions:

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. R. Livingston.

*Resolved*, That the deputy commissaries-general, deputy quarter-masters general, deputy adjutants-general, and deputy muster-masters general, make regular returns and reports to Congress, and to the respective officers to whom they are deputies, at least once a month, and that the principals also make returns to Congress at the same periods.

That the pay-master general, and the deputy pay-masters general, make monthly returns to Congress of their expenditures, and the state of the military chests in their several departments:

That the flying camp be under the command of such continental general officers as the commander in chief shall direct:

That expresses be established between the several continental posts:

That the militia, when in service, be regularly paid and victualled in the same manner as the continental troops:

That the aids-de-camp of the commander in chief rank as lieutenant-colonels:

That the aids-de-camp of major-generals rank as majors:

That Robert Hanson Harrison, esq. have the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the continental army:

That the assistant quarter-masters be allowed captain's pay:

That the pay of the regimental surgeons be augmented to thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar a month.

*Resolved*, That a committee, to consist of one member from each colony, be appointed, to consider of ways and means of establishing expresses between the several continental posts:

The members are, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Ellery, Mr. Wolcott, Mr. Lewis, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Lynch, jun. and Mr. Gwinnett.

Congress then proceeded to the election of an adjutant-general and quarter-master general, to fill up the vacancies in those offices; when the ballots being taken and examined,

Joseph Reed, esq. was elected adjutant-general; and

Stephen Moylan, esq. was elected quarter-master general.

*Resolved*, That Joseph Reed, esq. have the pay of 125 dollars a month, and the rank of a colonel:

That Stephen Moylan, esq. have the pay of 80 dollars a month, and the rank of colonel.

*Resolved*, That the election of major-generals be postponed.

*Resolved*, That no person shall be appointed to any place of profit, unless the person be appointed shall have a majority of the voices of the colonies represented at the time of the election.

Congress then proceeded to the election of two brigadier-generals, when the ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were duly elected :

John Whitecombe, esq. and Hugh Mercer, esq.

The order of the day, and the several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *June 6, 1776.*

Sundry letters were laid before Congress and read, viz.

Two from major-general Schuyler, of the 31st May and 1st June.

One from the commissioners in Canada, of the 27th and 28th of May.

Three from general Thomas, of which two to the commissioners of the 15th and 20th May, and one to general Wooster, of the 27th of the same month :

Three from brigadier-general Arnold, of the 17th, 25th, and 27th of May, to the commissioners in Canada, enclosing a cartel entered into between him and captain Foster, for exchange of prisoners :

One from brigadier-general Thompson, of the 25th of said month, to the commissioners.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the letter from the commissioners be sent to general Washington ;

That brigadier-general Wooster be directed immediately to repair to headquarters at New-York :

That the letters received and read, be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. F. Lee, and Mr. Gwinnett.

The draught of a speech to be delivered to the Indians, being read, was agreed to :

*Resolved*, That the delivery of it be deferred for some days.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To captain William West, for expenses in conducting money to Williamsburg, horse-hire, &c. included, the sum of 219 40-90 dollars :

To Melchior Meng, for twenty-one days hire of his wagon and horses carrying money to Virginia, the sum of 42 dollars :

To Benjamin Towne, the sum of 26 27-90 dollars for cartouch-boxes, being so much paid him less than the price contracted for :

To Robert Porter, for accoutrements for colonel Hartley's regiment, the sum of 18 65-90 dollars, and that the same ought to be charged to the said regiment :

To John Kuntz, the sum of 21 40-90 dollars, of which sum there is due, for entertaining general Lee's guards, the sum of 10 60-90 dollars, and for expresses, the sum of 10 70-90 dollars :

To Michael Staddleman, for entertaining general Lee's guard, the sum of 11 39-90 dollars :

To Benjamin Smith, for board and accommodations for prisoners at Trenton, the sum of 31 4-90 dollars, which became due before the regulation of Congress, determining the price of their board, took place :

For expenses in apprehending Henry Edwin Stanhope and George Gregory, who broke their parole and ran away from Northampton, in Connecticut, the sum of 47 48-90 dollars, and that the same ought to be charged to the said Stanhope and Gregory :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The marine committee having recommended sundry gentlemen for captains and subaltern-officers for the ships building or built for the continent :

*Resolved*, That Thomas Thompson be appointed captain of the frigate built in New-Hampshire :

John Hopkins, and Samuel Tomkins, for those building in Rhode-Island :

Christopher Miller, for one of those building at New-York :

Nicholas Biddle, John Barry, Thomas Read, Charles Alexander, for those building in Philadelphia :

James Nicholson for that building in Maryland.

*Resolved*, That the names of the thirteen frigates be, the Congress, Randolph, Hancock, Washington, Trumbull, Raleigh, Effingham, Montgomery, Warren, Boston, Virginia, Providence, and Delaware.

*Resolved*, That Israel Turner be first-lieutenant ; Joseph Doble, second-lieutenant ; Mark Dennet, third lieutenant, of captain Manly's ship.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to affix the names to each particular ship, and determine the vessel which each captain is to take command of :

That the marine committee be empowered and directed to consider the propriety of building two more ships of war, and their size, and report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That three members be added to the committee appointed to devise ways and means for raising ten millions of dollars, voted the 6th of May :

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. R. Livingston, and Mr. Tilghman.

*Resolved*, That doctor Jonathan Potts be employed as a physician and surgeon in the Canada department, or at Lake-George, as the general shall direct ; but, that this appointment shall not supersede Dr. Stringer.

*Resolved*, That an express be sent to Hugh Mercer, esq. who was yesterday appointed a brigadier-general, with his commission, and that he be desired immediately to repair to head-quarters, at New-York.

A memorial of Jacob Ummensetter was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee appointed to contract for the casting of cannon.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, June 7, 1776.

The committee to whom was referred the letter from Esek Hopkins, commodore of the continental fleet, dated Providence, May 22d, brought in their report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Charles Walker, of New-Providence, be paid the value of the sloop Endeavour, as also of four tons of lignum-vitæ, and one hundred cedar posts, taken by the said commodore, for the use of the colonies, and the damages the said Walker has sustained by the taking and detention of the said vessel, lignum-vitæ and posts ; the said Walker giving a full acquittance for the said vessel, goods and damages.

*Resolved*, That the governor of the colony of Connecticut be requested to appoint judicious and disinterested persons to appraise the vessel and goods aforesaid, at the time when they were taken, for the service of the colonies, and to estimate the full damages sustained by the said Walker, and report to this Congress forthwith, that the said Walker may be indemnified by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the said Walker have his election to receive his vessel again, and the hire of her, and his damages, or the value of her to be ascertained as aforesaid.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the resolutions of the convention of South-Carolina, respecting the battalions raised in that colony ; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That it be recommitted.

Congress being informed that complaint is made with respect to the powder manufactured at Oswald Eve's mill :

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wisner, Mr. Paine, and Mr. R. Livingston be a committee to enquire into the defect, and take measures to have it remedied.

Certain resolutions respecting independency being moved and seconded.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of them be referred till to-morrow morning; and, that the members be enjoined to attend punctually at 10 o'clock, in order to take the same into their consideration.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the attempt ~~now~~ to counterfeit the bills of credit, emitted by Congress, brought in their report.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for consideration.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, June 8, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the resolutions respecting independency be referred to a committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have taken into consideration the matter to them referred, ~~as~~ not having come to any resolution thereon, directed him to move for leave to sit again on Monday.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Monday next, at 10 o'clock, ~~re-assemble~~ itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the resolutions referred to them.

A petition of John Bayard, Joseph Deane, and William Erskine, being presented to Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell the petitioners 550 lb of powder, and 400 lb. of swivel and grape-shot, for the use of their privateer Hancock, and also 750 lb. of powder before applied for.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, June 10, 1776,

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

Two from general Washington, of the 7th and 8th, together with copies of twenty-one letters and papers from general Schuyler and others:

One from the commissioners in Canada, of the 17th of May; and

One from captain Herman Allen.

*Resolved*, That the said letters and papers be referred to the committee appointed on the 6th, to consider sundry letters that day read.

A letter from Stephen Moylan, esq. expressing his grateful thanks to Congress for appointing him to the office of quarter-master general; and a letter from the convention of New-York of the 7th, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the continental troops, in the middle department, be henceforth the same as that of the troops in the eastern.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for the appointment of a deputy quartermaster general for the eastern department.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the resolutions to them referred; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, and have come to a resolution thereon, which they directed him to report.

The resolution agreed to in committee of the whole Congress being read,

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the first resolution be postponed to Monday, the first day of July next; and in the mean while, that no time be lost, in case the Congress agree thereto, that a committee be appointed to prepare a declaration to the effect of the said first resolution, which is in these words: "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and

"independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown: and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great-Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, June 11, 1776.**

Two letters, of the 9th and 10th, from general Washington, were read and referred to the committee appointed on the 6th.

A letter from H. E. Stanhope, of the 11th, and one from E. Webb, of the 12th of May, both dated from Northampton gaol; also, one from Mrs. Connolly, were read:

*Resolved*, That these be referred to the committee on prisoners.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to consider of a compensation to the secretary for his services:

The members chosen, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Hewes.

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Carpenter Wharton, for the use of the Pennsylvania battalions, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be paid the Indian interpreter for his services, and to defray his expenses.

The present for the Indians being provided, they were called in, and the speech agreed to, was delivered as follows:

"Brothers, We hope the friendship that is between you and us will be firm, and continue as long as the sun shall shine, and the waters run, that we and you may be as one people, and have but one heart, and be kind to one another as brethren.

"Brothers, The king of Great-Britain, hearkening to the evil counsel of some of his foolish young men, is angry with us, because we will not let him take away from us our land, and all that we have, and give it to them, and because we will not do every thing that he bids us; and hath hindered his people from bringing goods to us; but, we have made provision for getting such a quantity of them, that we hope we shall be able to supply your wants as formerly.

"Brothers, We shall order all our warriors and young men not to hurt you or any of your kindred, and we hope you will not suffer any of your young men to join with our enemies, or to do any wrong to us, that nothing may happen to make any quarrel between us.

"Brothers, We desire you to accept a few necessaries, which we present you with, as tokens of our good-will towards you."

The presents being delivered, the Indian chief begged leave to give a name to the president; the same being granted, an Onondago chief arose, and saluted the president by the name of Karanduaan, or the Great Tree, by which name he informed him the president will be known among the Six nations.

After which the Indians took their leave and withdrew.

A letter from brigadier-general Sullivan, dated St. John's, June 1, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That colonel Shee and colonel Magaw, be ordered immediately to march with their regiments to New-York.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to lend the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, four tons of powder.

*Resolved*, That letters be sent, by express, to the several colonies who are to furnish militia for the defence of New-York, acquainting them of the necessity of forwarding the supplies with all possible despatch.

*Resolved*, That the committee, for preparing the declaration, consist of five:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. R. R. Livingston.

**Resolved**, That a committee be appointed to prepare and digest the form of a confederation to be entered into between these colonies :

That a committee be appointed to prepare a plan of treaties to be proposed to foreign powers.

Mr. Chase, and Mr. Carroll, of Carrollton, two of the commissioners being arrived from Canada, attended, and gave an account of their proceedings, and the state of the army in that country.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, June 12, 1776.

Colonel Roberdeau, on behalf of the owners of the privateers which have taken some prizes, on board of which was a quantity of dollars to the amount of 22,000, having tendered to Congress the moiety belonging to them, in exchange for continental bills of credit,

**Resolved**, That their offer be accepted, and that application be made to the agent for the men, for the moiety belonging to them, and that continental money be given them in lieu thereof.

Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy pay-master general for the eastern department, and, the ballots being taken,

Ebenezer Hancock was elected unanimously.

**Resolved**, That the sum of 150,000 dollars be sent to Mr. E. Hancock, deputy pay-master general, for the use of the continental troops in the eastern department.

The committee, to whom colonel Hand's letter, of the 5d of May last was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That general Washington be directed to order the rifles of the men belonging to the rifle regiment as will not re-inlist, to be purchased, and that the general order the payment out of the military chest.

That the rifle regiment be allowed a drummer and fifer to each company:

That 9000 dollars be advanced to colonel Hand, to purchase an uniform for the rifle regiment, the said sum to be stopped out of the pay of the said regiment.

**Resolved**, That captain Grier, who is returned from Virginia with his detachment, and a number of recruits, be directed to join the battalions on their march to New-York, and that Mr. C. Wharton be directed to supply them with rations.

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Mowbray, for the use of his battalion, the 191 muskets sent up by captain Barry.

**Resolved**, That the committee to prepare and digest the form of a confederation to be entered into between these colonies, consist of a member from each colony :

The members appointed, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Sherman, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Stone, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Gwinnett.

**Resolved**, That the committee to prepare a plan of treaties to be proposed to foreign powers, consist of five :

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Franklin, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. R. Morris.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on a war office: Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That a committee of Congress be appointed by the name of the board of war and ordnance, to consist of five members.

That a secretary and one or more clerks, be appointed by Congress, with competent salaries, to assist the said board in executing the business of the department :

That it be the duty of the said board, to obtain and keep an alphabetical and accurate register of the names of all officers of the land forces in the service of the United Colonies, with their rank and the dates of their respective commissions; and also regular accounts of the state and disposition of the troops in the respective colonies; for which purpose, the generals and officers commanding in the different departments and posts, are to cause regular returns to be made in the said war-office:

That they shall obtain and keep exact accounts of all the artillery, arms, ammunition and war-like stores, belonging to the United Colonies, and of the manner in which, and the places where, the same shall, from time to time, be lodged and employed; and that they shall have the immediate care of all such artillery, arms, ammunition, and war-like stores, as shall not be employed in actual service; for preserving whereof, they shall have power to hire proper magazines at the public expense:

That they shall have the care of forwarding all despatches from Congress to the colonies and armies, and all monies to be transmitted for the public service by order of Congress; and of providing suitable escorts and guards for the safe conveyance of such despatches and monies, when it shall appear to them to be necessary:

That they shall superintend the raising, fitting out, and despatching all such land forces as may be ordered for the service of the United Colonies:

That they shall have the care and direction of all prisoners of war, agreeable to the orders and regulations of Congress:

That they shall keep and preserve, in the said office, in regular order, all original letters and papers, which shall come into the said office by order of Congress, or otherwise, and shall also cause all draughts of letters and despatches to be made or transcribed in books to be set apart for that purpose, and shall cause fair entries, in like manner, to be made, and registers preserved, of all other business which shall be transacted in the said office:

That before the secretary, or any clerk of the war-office shall enter on his office, they shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath, a certificate whereof shall be filed in the said office:

"I, A. B. do solemnly swear, that I will not directly or indirectly, divulge any matter or thing, which shall come to my knowledge, as secretary of the board of war and ordnance, (or clerk of the board of war and ordnance,) established by Congress, without the leave of the said board of war and ordnance, and that I will faithfully execute my said office, according to the best of my skill and judgment. So help me God."

That the said board of war be authorized to hire suitable apartments, and provide books, papers, and other necessities, at the continental expense, for carrying on the business of the said office.

The committee to whom the several letters, from the commissioners in Canada, and major-general Schuyler, with the papers enclosed therein, were referred, brought in their report, which was read:

The commissioners to Canada also brought in a report in writing, which was read:

*Resolved*, That the said two reports be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the reports to them referred; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made some progress in the matters referred to them; but, not having finished, directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *June 13, 1776.*

A letter from Mr. M'Kean, dated 2 o'clock this morning, and a letter from the committee of Lewistown, of the 11th, were laid before Congress, and read. Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be directed to forward one ton of gunpowder, and a proportionable quantity of lead, if to be got, to the committee of safety of the counties on Delaware, for the use of the militia in that government:

That it be recommended to the assembly of Pennsylvania, immediately to order a battalion of the provincial riflemen to march to the assistance of the militia in Delaware government:

That it be recommended to the assembly, or committee of safety of Delaware government, to cause all the disaffected, in their colony, to be disarmed, and the arms to be disposed of agreeable to a former resolution of Congress:

That the commanding officer of the rifle battalion of associators in this city be requested to order a company of the said battalion to escort the powder sent to the Delaware government, until they shall reach the provincial battalion of riflemen, ordered to march to the assistance of the Delaware militia.

A letter from James M'Lepe, chairman of the committee of Shippensburg, enclosing certain resolutions respecting some powder they have stopped, was sent by Mr. L. Morris to George Morgan, esq. at Pittsburg, was laid before Congress and read.

**Resolved,** That the president return an answer, and inform the committee that the powder was sent to G. Morgan, esq. by order of Congress, and request them to use their endeavors to have the same forwarded, with all safety and despatch, to Mr. Morgan, at Pittsburg.

A letter of the 11th from the convention of New-York was also read, and referred to the committee appointed the 6th.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be directed to stop the exportation of any salted provisions, which they may have ordered to be made from New-York.

**Resolved,** That the secret committee be directed to deliver 100 lb. of powder to the order of the committee appointed to contract for the casting of cannon.

**Resolved,** That an order for 600 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of captain James Grier, he to be accountable for the same, and to render an account thereof to the pay-master general, upon his arrival at New-York.

**Resolved,** That the pay of the secretary of the board of war and ordnance, be at the rate of 800 dollars a year.

Congress having proceeded to the election of a committee to form the board of war and ordnance, the following members were chosen:

Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. E. B. Riddle:

Richard Peters, esq. was elected secretary of the said board.

The committee on qualifications having recommended doctor Benjamin Allison as surgeon to the first Pennsylvania battalion now in Canada;

George Tudor to be captain of the company lately commanded by Walter Stewart, in the third Pennsylvania battalion;

Mr. John Duguid, as first lieutenant in the said third battalion;

Mr. Herman Stout, as a second lieutenant in the said battalion;

And Mr. Andrew Graydon, as an ensign in the said battalion:

**Resolved,** That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into the farther consideration the reports to them referred, and after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made some further progress in the matters referred to them, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports to them referred.

The marine committee reported, that complaints are made against commodore E. Hopkins, captain Saltonstal, and captain Whipple, for breach of orders, and other mal-practices : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to inform commodore E. Hopkins, captain Saltonstal, and captain Whipple, of the complaints lodged against them, and order them immediately to repair to Philadelphia, to answer for their conduct.

*Resolved*, That in case the enemy's ships of war attempt to come up the river Delaware, that the secret committee be empowered and directed to deliver such a quantity of powder as they shall judge necessary, to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, June 14, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1500 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Mr. George Evans, commissary, for the use of the continental troops in Delaware government, he to be accountable.

A letter of the 10th, from the committee of safety of Maryland, was laid before Congress and read ; also, a letter of the 16th of May, from the commissioners in Canada, recommending major Dubois to the notice of Congress for promotion.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer in the barracks be directed to deliver the prisoner in his custody to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, who are desired to treat him agreeable to former resolutions of Congress.

A letter of the 13th, from general Washington, enclosing two letters from major-general Schuyler, of the 8th, and sundry other letters and papers, was laid before Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the standing committee on Indian affairs, and that the committee be directed to sit forthwith.

A letter of the 13th, from W. Livingston, enclosing a letter from Thomas Little, of the 2d, was laid before Congress and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the committee appointed to enquire into and remedy the defects of the powder manufactured at Mr. O. Eve's mill.

The committee to whom were referred the letters from general Washington, of the 9th and 10th, and a letter from the president of the convention of New-York, with the papers enclosed, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of the colony of New-York, to make effectual provision for detecting, restraining, and punishing dissaffected and dangerous persons in that colony, and to prevent all persons from having any intercourse or correspondence with the enemy ; and that general Washington afford his aid therein, when necessary.

Whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that great quantities of salted beef and pork have been purchased for exportation, which, if not restrained, may render the supplies of the army difficult and uncertain :

*Resolved*, therefore, That no salted beef or pork, except as much as may be necessary for the use of the crew, be exported from any of the United Colonies, in any vessel, under any pretence whatever, until the further order of this Congress.

The committee appointed to consider of a compensation to the secretary, for his services, brought in their report, which was agreed to, as follows :

That the sum of one thousand two hundred dollars be granted and paid, out of the public treasury, to Charles Thomson, secretary to the United Colonies,

in consideration of his faithful services for one year, ending the 10th of May last.

The committee to whom general Washington's letter of the 15th, and major general Schuyler's of the 8th, were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler and the other commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department be directed immediately to hold a conference with the Six Nations; to engage them in our interest upon the best terms that can be procured, and treat with them on the principles and in the decisive manner mentioned in his letter:

That general Schuyler's preparations for immediately taking post at Fort Stanwix, and erecting a fortification there, be approved of; and that general Washington be instructed to give him directions for carrying that measure into execution.

*Resolved*, That the committee on spies be directed to revise the rules and articles of war, and to make such additions and alterations as they may judge proper, and lay the same before Congress for their consideration.

A petition from Mrs. \*\*\*, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee on spies.

A memorial from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania was presented to Congress, and read; setting forth, that a committee of the assembly, accompanied by the general officers lately in town, and a skilful engineer, have viewed the river Delaware, and the fortifications and defences erected at the expense of the colony of Pennsylvania to oppose and prevent the passage of the enemy's ships; and that they have judged it necessary, for farther security, that a redoubt should be erected at Billingsport, on the New-Jersey side, and that a boom should be there thrown across, or some other obstructions fixed in the channel; and praying, as the place for the redoubt is out of their government, and as their colony has expended a very large sum for the defence of the river, that the Congress would direct the works to be done at the continental expense; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be empowered, at the continental expense, to erect the redoubt, and to fix the boom, or other obstructions, at the places aforesaid:

Thomas Bales, blacksmith, proposing to supply the continental troops with a quantity of camp-kettles, of sheet-iron at one and one-third dollar each, provided he can have credit for five tons of sheet-iron:

*Resolved*, That Timothy Matlack, esq. be directed to write to Thomas Mayberry, of Mountholly, the manufacturer of sheet-iron, to send down to him five tons of sheet-iron, for which he will be paid on the delivery; and that Mr. Matlack be directed to receive the said iron, and deliver it out, as it may be wanted, to Thomas Bales, and receive the kettles as fast as made.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### SATURDAY, June 15, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from Mr. M'Kean of the 13th, and one from Mr. P. Peters:

One from general Washington of the 14th, enclosing the copy of a letter from general Shuyler of the 10th, and sundry other papers:

One from governor Trumbull, of the 10th, with sundry papers enclosed:

One from David Waterbury, of the 6th, with accounts enclosed:

*Resolved*, That the letter from D. Waterbury, with the accounts enclosed, be referred to the committee of claims.

A letter from the committee of safety of Virginia, of the 5th, informing of the arrival of five tons of powder, on account of the continent, was read; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That one half of the said continental powder be left in Virginia, and the other half forwarded to the commanding officer in South-Carolina.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the state of Georgia, and report thereon to Congress:

The members chosen, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

The marine committee having recommended

Mr. Hector M'Neal to command the frigate Boston,

Mr. John Brown to be lieutenant of the same.

Mr. Thomas Grennell to command the frigate Montgomery,

**Resolved**, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

A memorial from the owners of four private ships of war, fitted and fitting out in Philadelphia, was presented to Congress, and read:

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

For expenses of sick men belonging to the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 58 30-90 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to captain Samuel Benezet.

To Hugh Hodge, for sundry necessaries for the sick of the third Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 34 15-90 dollars:

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master for transporting salt-petre from Egg-harbour to Cooper's ferry, the sum of 210 70-90 dollars:

To Peter Agnew, for repairing arms for the fifth Pennsylvania battalion, the sum of 11 36-90 dollars.

The said committee farther reported, that Peter Noble, a soldier belonging to colonel Hinman's battalion, (captain Watson's company) who was taken prisoner near Montreal, with colonel Eathan Allen, ought to have the sum of 40 dollars advanced to him, and his receipt taken for the same, as part of his pay:

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

It being represented to Congress, that a number of officers, whose men left them last winter in Canada, and who remained and served there during the whole winter, were returned, and were desirous of being some way employed and provided for:

**Resolved**, That this case be referred to the board of war and ordnance, who are desired to sit as soon as conveniently they can, and report thereon to Congress.

**Resolved**, That the president write to governor Trumbull, desiring, that he will deliver to the agent of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, the cannon and trucks ordered by Congress to be taken from New-London, and that he be informed, the Congress expect this resolution will be immediately complied with.

**Resolved**, That the letters from governor Trumbull, general Washington and general Schuyler, be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

**Resolved**, That the report of the committee on general Washington's letters of the 9th and 10th, which was left unfinished, together with the amendments moved and seconded, be referred to the committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports referred to them; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions thereon, which they ordered him to report; but, not having yet finished, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The report from the committee of the whole being delivered in,

**Resolved**, That a committee of four be appointed to digest and arrange the several resolutions agreed to in the committee of the whole, in order to be laid

before Congress; and that the committee of the whole be discharged of the reports, so far as they relate to the cartel entered into between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster for an exchange of prisoners, and that the same be referred to the committee now to be appointed:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Middleton.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the reports to them referred.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, June 17, 1776.

A letter of the 7th of May from brigadier-general Armstrong, and one of the 6th of June from the committee of Albany, were laid before Congress, and read:

The board of war and ordnance, to whom the letter from governor Trumbull of the 10th of June, was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the governor and assembly of Connecticut, to send the two battalions mentioned in the said letter as raised, one for Boston, and one for New-York, into Canada forthwith, as proposed in the said letter; and that a battalion of militia be sent to Boston, instead of the one intended for that place:

That blank commissions be sent to governor Trumbull, for the officers of the battalion intended for New-York; the present exigency requiring this measure, the same not to be drawn into precedent:

That 10,500 dollars be paid into the hands of the delegates of Connecticut to be sent to that colony, to defray the expenses of raising the said regiment:

That governor Trumbull be informed, that Congress are of opinion, that the provision made by the late act of assembly of Connecticut, for the purpose of engaging one-third of the militia on the sea-coast, and one-fourth in the interior part of that colony, for the defence thereof, and of the neighbouring colonies, will, by no means, answer the object the Congress had in view by their resolution of the 3d of June; and request, that such steps may be taken by the assembly of that colony, as shall seem to them most likely to carry into effect the said requisition.

*Resolved*, That commissions be granted to the officers appointed by the assembly of Connecticut for the regiment ordered to be raised in that colony, for the service of the continent.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell two tons of gunpowder to the convention of New-Jersey, for the use of their militia.

The committee appointed to digest and methodize the resolutions entered into by the committee of the whole, having performed that service, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an experienced general be immediately sent into Canada, with power to appoint a deputy adjutant-general, a deputy muster-master-general, and such other officers as he shall find necessary for the good of the service, and to fill up vacancies in the army in Canada, and notify the same to Congress for their approbation; that he also have power to suspend any officer there, till the pleasure of Congress be known, he giving his reasons for so doing in the orders of suspension, and transmitting to Congress, as soon as possible, the charge against such officer: provided, that this power of suspending officers and filling up vacancies, shall not be continued beyond the first day of October next:

That general Washington be directed to send major-general Gates into Canada, to take the command of the forces in that province:

That no officer suttle or sell to the soldiers, on penalty of being fined one month's pay, and dismissed the service with infamy, on conviction before a court-martial :

That the baggage of officers and soldiers be regulated conformably to the rules in the British armies :

That all sales of arms, ammunition, clothing, and accoutrements, made by soldiers, be void :

That no troops employed in Canada be disbanded there ; that all soldiers in Canada, ordered to be disbanded, or whose times of inlistment being expired, shall refuse to re-inlist, shall be sent, under proper officers, to Ticonderoga, or such other post on the lakes as the general shall direct, where they shall be mustered, and the arms, accoutrements, blankets, and utensils which they may have belonging to the public, shall be delivered up, and deposited in the public store :

That a deputy muster-master general be immediately sent into Canada :

That the local commissaries and quarter-masters, appointed at the different garrisons or posts, shall make weekly returns to the general of the provisions and stores in the places at which they may happen to be stationed :

That the general officers, deputy quarter-master general, local commissaries, pay-master in Canada, and all other persons there, who have received public monies, be ordered, without delay, to render and settle their accounts ; on which settlement, no general officer shall receive pay as colonel of a regiment, nor field-officer as captain of a company :

That general Schuyler be directed to make a good wagon-road from Fort-Edward to Cheshire's ; to clear Wood-creek, and to construct a lock at Skenesborough, so as to have a continued navigation for batteaus from Cheshire's into Lake-Champlain ; to erect a grand magazine at Cheshire's and secure it by a stockade fort ; to erect a saw-mill at Scoon-creek ; to order skilful persons to survey and take the level of the waters falling into Hudson's river near Fort-Edward, and those which fall into Wood-creek and interlock with the former, particularly Jones' run and Half-way brook, the latter of which is said to discharge itself into Wood-creek at Cheshire's ; that he be directed to have a greater number of boats and hands kept on Hudson's river, at the different stations between Albany and Fort-Edward, in order to save the expense of wagonage ; that he be empowered to appoint proper officers to superintend the carriage by land, and transportation by water, of provisions, military stores, and other things into Canada, that neither waste or delay may arise therein ; that he build, with all expedition, as many gallies and armed vessels as, in the opinion of himself and the general officer to be sent into Canada, shall be sufficient to make us indisputably masters of the lakes Champlain and George ; and that, for this purpose, there be sent to him a master carpenter acquainted with the construction of the gallies used on the Delaware, who shall take with him other carpenters, and models also if requisite ; and that it be submitted to general Schuyler, whether a temporary fortification or entrenched camp, either at Crown-point or opposite Ticonderoga, may be necessary :

That the commissary-general be directed to supply the army in Canada with provisions, and to appoint proper officers under him to receive and issue the same at the several posts, taking the directions of the general ; that he be empowered to contract with proper persons in Canada for supplying the army there with fresh provisions ; that he be directed to purchase for them a quantity of Albany peas, and to furnish as much biscuit as may be necessary ; and that his pay be raised to 150 dollars a month :

That the quarter-master general be directed to provide and forward such tents, clothing, and utensils as are wanted for the army in Canada, subject to the direction of the commander in chief :

That general Washington be directed to send into Canada, such small brass or iron field-pieces as he can spare; that he be instructed to issue orders that no certificates be given in future by any but brigadiers, quarter-masters or their deputies, or a field-officer on a march, or officer commanding at an attached post:

That letters be written to the conventions of New-Jersey and New-York and to the assembly of Connecticut, recommending to them to authorize the commander in chief in the colony of New-York, to call to the assistance of that colony, when necessity shall require it, such of the militia of those colonies as may be necessary; and to afford him such other assistance as the situation of affairs may require; and, that it be further recommended to the convention of New-York, to empower the said commander in chief to impress carriages and water-craft, when necessary for the public service, and also to remove ships and other vessels in Hudson's and the East rivers, for the purpose of securing them from the enemy:

That the companies of riflemen from Virginia and Maryland be regimented and that the regiment be completed to the original number of the Pennsylvania battalion:

That the Pennsylvania battalion of riflemen be completed to their original establishment:

That two companies of the forces now in the Delaware government be ordered to Cape-May:

That the committee, appointed to contract for cannon, be directed to procure a number of brass or iron field-pieces, to be made or purchased immediately:

That the committee, appointed to provide medicines, be directed to send a proper assortment of medicines to Canada:

That Mr. James Mease be directed to purchase and forward to the quartermaster general in New-York, as much cloth for tents as he can procure:

That the committee appointed to provide stockings and shoes for the troops in Canada, be directed to purchase such other articles as may be wanted for the use of the soldiers in Canada, and send the same to Albany, that they may be forwarded to the army in Canada, and that they be particularly attentive to provide, in time, a sufficient number of leathern breeches and under waistcoats, and such other winter clothing as may be necessary for them:

That the said committee be directed to forward, with all expedition, to the quartermaster in Canada, such shoes as are already provided:

That prisoners, taken by continental forces, be not exchanged by any authority but the Continental Congress:

That all vessels which sailed from the port or harbour of Boston, while the town of Boston was in possession of the enemy, having on board effects belonging to the enemies of America, and which have been or may be seized, be liable, together with the said effects, to confiscation, in the same manner and proportions as have been heretofore resolved by Congress:

That the continental agents in the respective colonies, where no courts have been established for the trials of captures, have power, and be directed, to dispose, at public sale, of such articles of a perishable nature, as shall be taken from the enemies of America, and that the money arising from such sale be liable to the decree of such court whenever established:

That the inventory of the ordnance stores, taken by captain Manly, be sent to general Washington, and that he be requested to appoint a person on the part of the colonies, to join one on the part of captain Manly and his crew who, having first taken an oath for that purpose, shall proceed to value the same, and if they cannot agree in the value, they shall call in a third person to determine the same; that the report of such persons be returned to Congress so soon as may be, and the value of the stores belonging to captain Manly and his crew, be thereupon transmitted to them.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the delegates of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New-Jersey, and New-York, to devise the mode of raising the battalion of Germans voted the 25th of May last.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee, to whom was referred, the cartel between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster, for the exchange of prisoners, and the several papers relating thereto, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee on the petition of colonel Turbutt Francis reported, that they had met on the business referred to them ; that the Indians refused to be examined, or to give evidence on the matter, which prevented their proceeding, wherefore they desired to be discharged :

*Resolved*, That they be discharged.

The committee on spies brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee to whom the letter from William Palfrey, esq. pay-master general, were referred, brought in their report, which was read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said letters, with the weekly returns enclosed, be delivered to the superintendents of the treasury, to be filed in the auditor-general's office.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, June 18, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from general Washington of the 16th, enclosing one from general Ward of the 9th, and one from Wm. Palfrey of the 16th.

Three from general Schuyler of the 11th and 12th :

Two from brigadier-general Sullivan of the 5th and 6th ; and

Two from brigadier-general Arnold of the 5th and 6th :

*Resolved*, That these be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

A letter from W. Palfrey, with a weekly return, was read :

*Ordered*, To be delivered to the superintendents of the treasury.

A letter from J. Trumbull, commissary-general, of the 17th, informing, that he has found it necessary to order a quantity of flour to be purchased in Philadelphia, and that to pay for the same, he has drawn on the president in favor of Mr. Matthew Erwin, for 60,000 dollars, and, as he shall be under the necessity of giving orders for purchasing pork and flour in Philadelphia, desiring to know whether he may, from time to time, continue to draw on the president for the payment of those articles.

*Resolved*, That the president pay such bills as are or may be drawn by Joseph Trumbull, esq. for the purposes abovementioned, and that the same, as paid, be charged to his account.

A letter from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, requesting the opinion of Congress, whether persons taken on board merchants' ships and river-craft, ought to be exchanged for seamen taken from the enemy's ships of war ?

*Resolved*, That the president inform the committee of safety that the Congress judge it improper that such exchange be made.

*Resolved*, That Gunning Bedford, esq. deputy muster-master general, be promoted to the rank of muster-master general, and that he be directed immediately to repair to head-quarters at New-York.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered and directed, to nominate and send a deputy muster-master general to Canada.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee for superintending the treasury :

The members chosen, Mr. Hewes, and Mr. M'Kean.

A memorial from Dr. John Morgan, director-general and chief physician of the hospital, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee appointed to provide medicines.

The committee to whom the report on the resolutions of the convention of South-Carolina, respecting the battalions raised in that colony, were recommended, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon, the Congress came to the following resolutions :

Whereas the Congress, on the 4th day of November last, resolved, that for the defence of South-Carolina, there be kept up in that colony, at the continental expense, three battalions of foot; each battalion to consist of the same number of men and officers, to be upon the same pay, and under the same regulations as the continental army; and, on the 25th day of March last, resolved, that the convention, or council of safety of South-Carolina, be permitted to raise and embody two other battalions, and that they be on the pay, and at the expense of the continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered; and whereas the convention of South-Carolina, on the 22d day of February last, ordered that their council of safety return the thanks of that colony to the Congress for their attention to its security; that they state the peculiar circumstances and the heavy expenses which have been and will be incurred by that colony in the measures necessary for its defence, and that they request the Congress to allow that colony so much money as the expenses of three battalions, upon the continental establishment, would amount to for one year, and to give continental rank to the officers of the three regiments raised in June, and of the regiment of artillery raised in November, from the dates of their respective commissions, or at least from the fourth day of November, when they resolved to allow that colony three battalions; and whereas, the delegates from that colony in Congress, have represented the peculiar circumstances and heavy expenses of that colony; and that the troops raised in it were inlisted for three years, upon a different establishment of pay, and under different articles of war, so as to render it inconvenient to place them, in all respects, upon the continental establishment; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the battalion of artillery, and the two battalions of foot, raised in South-Carolina, and kept up in that colony for the defence of the same, be considered as continental forces, and allowed the same pay, rations and disbursements as other forces on the continental establishment :

That the two battalions, under the command of colonels Gadsden and Moultrie, be allowed all the advantages of the continental establishment, from the 4th of November last, and the regiment of artillery, from the time when the same was ordered to be raised by the convention of South-Carolina :

That the two battalions of riflemen, raised in and for the defence of the said colony, be considered as continental troops from the 25th day of March last, and be entitled to all the advantages of the same :

That all the above mentioned troops be liable to the articles for the government of the forces in the said colony :

That the said forces be continued on the continental establishment until the expiration of their inlistment, unless they shall be sooner disbanded by Congress :

That not more than ~~one~~ third of the effective men of the abovementioned forces be ordered out of the said colony, without the express order of Congress, or the consent of the president of that colony.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Heyward, and Mr. Hall be added to the committee for providing medicines.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Rodgers, be appointed a member of the marine committee.

**Resolved,** That a commissioner be appointed to settle in Canada the debts due on certificates, given by officers to the Canadians for carriages and other services; and to settle the accounts for such goods, as may have been seized, through necessity, for the use of the army; that it be given as instruction to him, to attend particularly to the case of Mr. Bernard; and that, in settling the certified debts, he state carefully the names of all those who have given certificates, the nature of the service, and the time when performed, and return the whole, when settled and stated, to the committee of the treasury, to be by them examined and discharged:

That Thursday next be assigned for electing the said commissioner.

**Resolved,** That no man in these colonies, charged with being a tory, or unfriendly to the cause of American liberty, be injured in his person or property, or in any manner whatever disturbed, unless the proceeding against him be founded on an order of this Congress, or the assembly, convention, council or committee of safety of the colony, or committee of inspection and observation, of the district where he resides; provided, that this resolution shall not prevent the apprehending any person found in the commission of some act destructive of American liberty, or justly suspected of a design to commit such act, and intending to escape, and bringing such person before proper authority for examination and trial.

Information being given, that some of the officers, who were prisoners at Lebanon, in the colony of Pennsylvania, have, in violation of the parole by them given and subscribed, made their escape,

**Resolved,** That it be referred to the board of war and ordnance to consider what steps are necessary to be taken on the occasion.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY June, 19, 1776.

A letter from the convention of New-Jersey of the 18th, enclosing an ordinance for raising 3300 militia for the defence of New-York, together with their proceedings in apprehending William Franklin, esq. late governor of that colony, was laid before Congress, and read; Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That it be recommended to the convention of New-Jersey, to proceed on the examination of Mr. Franklin, and if, upon such examination, they shall be of opinion that he should be confined, to report such opinion to this Congress, and then the Congress will direct the place of his confinement, they concurring in sentiment with the convention of New-Jersey, that it would be improper to confine him in that colony.

The board of war and ordnance, to whom sundry letters and papers were referred, particularly one from general Washington of the 16th, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That the commissions granted by brigadier-general Sullivan, to sundry officers in Canada, mentioned in general Washington's letter, be approved and confirmed, provided, general Gates and the general officers in Canada, on consultation, shall think the measure will conduce to the public service.

That 300,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general at New-York, for the use of the army.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To John Jervis, for horse-hire, ferriages, &c. the sum of 33 10-90 dollars:

To John Bruce, the sum of 13 36-90 dollars, being the balance of his bill for cartouch boxes:

To Joseph Fernaur, the sum of 17 3-90 dollars, the balance of his bill for tin cartouch boxes:

To Sacheveral Wood, the sum of 187 26-90 dollars, for victualling prisoners confined in gaol by order of Congress:

To George Reinheart, for the carriage of powder, arms, and bullets, the sum of 20 48-90 dollars :

To Thomas Harvey, for cash paid by him for guards of powder-wagons and also his bills for ferriages, the hire of wagons, &c. the sum of 27 20-9 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Samuel Hillegas, esq.

To Mary Thomas, for nursing and boarding two of captain Benezet's men in the small-pox, the sum of 12 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A muster-roll of the ninth Virginia battalion, commanded by colonel Fleming, taken the 31st of May last, was laid before Congress : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said battalion be taken into continental pay from the said 31st day of May.

*Resolved*, That one ton of gun-powder be sent to the colonel or commanding officer of the said battalion :

That the committee for preparing medicine-chests, be directed to send one to the surgeon of the said battalion.

*Resolved*, That the marine-committee be directed to carry into execution the resolution of the 17th, for sending carpenters to general Schuyler.

A memorial from the mates of the hospital was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee for providing medicines.

Whereas it is indispensably necessary for the good of the service, that the soldiers of the United Colonies be well provided with blankets and clothing : therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, forthwith to cause a suit of clothes, of which the waistcoat and breeches may be made of deer leather, if to be had on reasonable terms : blanket, felt hat, two shirts, two pair of hose, and two pair of shoes, to be manufactured, or otherwise procured at reasonable rates, in their respective colonies for each soldier of the American army, enlisted therein for the present campaign, and that the same be baled, invoiced, and stored in suitable places, to be delivered to the order of Congress, or the commander in chief of the American army :

That sufficient sums of money be granted to the assemblies and conventions aforesaid, on applying for the same, to enable them to discharge the demands arising from the purchase of the articles aforesaid :

That the commander in chief of the American army be empowered to draw on the assemblies and conventions, for such articles of clothing aforesaid, as he shall, from time to time judge necessary, and that the cost thereof be deducted from the pay of the soldiers who shall receive the same, by the proper officer for examining and discharging the accounts and pay-rolls of the respective regiments.

The marine committee, to whom the petition of William Adams, surgeon, was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the resignation of William Adams be accepted.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, June 20, 1776.

A letter of the 17th from general Washington, and a letter from the convention of New-Jersey, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That in order to give time to the several committees, to prepare for the house the matters referred to them, it be a standing rule of Congress, its adjournments from the Friday evening, be always to Monday morning, unless on any particular occasion, the Congress shall order otherwise.

A petition from Carpenter Wharton was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the cartel between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster, for exchange of prisoners; and, after debate, the farther consideration thereof was postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to draw up rules and regulations for the conduct of the house during debates:

The members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Paine.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To captain William Richards, for the detention of his shallop twenty days on the public service, the sum of 40 dollars:

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for wagonage, the sum of 207 30-90 dollars:

To David Williamson, for wagon-hire, carrying captain James Grier's baggage from Fredericksburg to New-York, and returning home, the sum of 147 dollars:

To Abraham Mills, for nursing and boarding six soldiers in the small-pox, the sum of 33 86-90 dollars:

To Samuel Cooper, for ferriage and storage, the sum of 26 12-90 dollars:

To Leonard Stoneburner, for one team hauling the baggage of captain Williams's company 18 miles beyond Goshen, and two teams hauling the baggage of captain Jones's company to Albany, the sum of 414 54-90 dollars:

On two certificates produced by H. Wisner, esq. the sum of 11 45-90 dollars, expenses of the first Pennsylvania battalion, at Goshen, and that the same ought to be paid to Henry Wisner, esq. and charged to J. Shallus, quarter-master of the said battalion:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to consider what provision ought to be made for such as are wounded or disabled in the land or sea service, and report a plan for that purpose:

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. F. Lee, Mr. Hall, Mr. Ellery, and Mr. Lewis.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, June 21, 1776.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to permit brigadier-general Wooster to return to his family in Connecticut.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of the Delaware battalion, be directed to send a proper guard, with the powder ordered to colonel Flemming's regiment, on the Eastern-Shore of Virginia.

*Resolved*, That an order for 300,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of South-Carolina, for the use of the continental battalions in that colony; the said delegates to be accountable:

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Rowland Swan, a captain of his Britannic majesty's 7th regiment of foot, the sum of 36 dollars, for eighteen weeks' allowance, and 12 dollars for bringing his baggage from New-York to Philadelphia, together with the baggage of capt. Dundee, and three privates of the said regiment:

To Joseph Haight, for supplying the prisoners at Burlington with provisions to the 4th of June instant, the sum of 238 dollars:

To Andrew M'Nair, the sum of 120 23-90 dollars for provisions, &c. for the twenty-four Indians, while at the state-house, which was twenty days:

To Michael Clark, for liquor for the above Indians, the sum of 27 66-90 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A letter of the 21st, from the convention of New-Jersey, was laid before Congress and read, together with sundry letters from the prisoners in Burlington.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the commissioner to be sent into Canada be four dollars a day.

The board of war and ordnance, to whom was referred the case of the officers who served last winter in Canada, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the convention of New-York be requested to set on foot the raising another regiment on continental establishment, to serve for three years, or during the war, unless sooner discharged by Congress; and that in forming the said regiment, they commission such officers as served in the last campaign in Canada, and have not been yet provided for:

That the said officers be informed that the commissions to be granted them, are on condition that they raise their companies to their full complement, or nearly thereto, and that their commissions be withheld until the said condition be complied with:

That it be recommended to the said convention to make suitable provision for major Dubois, with whose good conduct Congress are well satisfied, and that they return his name, with the names of the other field officers, for the approbation of Congress.

That a commission of lieutenant-colonel be given to major John Fischer, in colonel John Nicholson's regiment, in the New-York forces.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the report from the committee of the whole: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to order an enquiry to be made into the conduct of the officers heretofore employed in the Canada department; that the said enquiry be made at such times and places as, in his judgment, shall be most likely to do justice, as well to the public as to the individuals; and that the result of the said enquiry, together with the testimonies upon the subject, be transmitted to Congress: that, moreover, all officers accused of cowardice, plundering, embezzlement of public moneys, and other misdemeanors, be immediately brought to trial: And whereas, Congress is informed that an opinion has prevailed that officers resigning their commissions are not subject to trial by a court-martial for offences committed previous to such resignation, whereby some have evaded the punishments to which they were liable, it is hereby declared that such opinion is not just.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, June 24, 1776.

Two letters of the 20th and 21st, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, were laid before Congress and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to the general, desiring him to put a stop to the raising the companies of Mohickan and Stockbridge Indians, mentioned in one of the enclosed papers; and that a like letter be written to governor Trumbull.

A letter of the 21st, from the convention of New-Jersey, was laid before Congress and read, together with sundry papers enclosed therein, containing the questions proposed to William Franklin, esq. an account of his behavior on the occasion, and the resolution of the convention, "declaring him a virulent enemy to this country, and a person that may prove dangerous, and that the said William Franklin be confined in such place and manner as the Continental Congress shall direct;" Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That William Franklin be sent under guard to governor Trumbull, who is desired to admit him to his parole; but, if Mr. Franklin refuse to give his parole, that governor Trumbull be desired to treat him agreeable to the resolutions of Congress respecting prisoners.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Mease be directed to advance to captain Matthew

Smith, of the rifle-battalion, one thousand and forty dollars, for the purpose of recruiting his company; the said captain Smith to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Mease, and the committee of claims, be directed to forward to the pay-master general, an account of the monies advanced and ordered to be charged to the rifle-battalion, or the respective rifle companies, in order that the same may be deducted, and stopped from their pay.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of tents, which were sent from Philadelphia for the use of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, have been stopped at New-York, by the order of the quarter-master general:

*Resolved*, That the president write to the general on this subject, and desire him to order the said tents to be delivered up, and forwarded to the colony of Massachusetts-Bay immediately.

*Resolved*, That a committee, to consist of a member from each colony, be appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada:

That the said committee have power to send for persons and papers:

The members chosen, Mr. Whipple, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Paca, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Middleton, and Mr. Hall.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Gunning Bedford, the sum of 202 dollars, of which sum 103 dollars and 30-90ths, for pay and subsistence for two months, the remainder for a horse for the continental service:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the report on the cartel for exchange of prisoners, entered into between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster, be recommitted.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on spies; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That all persons abiding within any of the United Colonies, and deriving protection from the laws of the same, owe allegiance to the said laws, and are members of such colony; and that all persons passing through, visiting, or make a temporary stay in any of the said colonies, being entitled to the protection of the laws during the time of such passage, visitation or temporary stay, owe, during the same, allegiance thereto:

That all persons, members of, or owing allegiance to any of the United Colonies, as before described, who shall levy war against any of the said colonies within the same, or be adherent to the king of Great-Britain, or other enemies of the said colonies, or any of them, within the same, giving to him or them aid and comfort, are guilty of treason against such colony:

That it be recommended to the legislatures of the several United Colonies, to pass laws for punishing, in such manner as to them shall seem fit, such persons before described, as shall be proveably attainted of open deed, by people of their condition, of any of the treasons before described.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several legislatures of the United Colonies, to pass laws for punishing, in such manner as they shall think fit, persons who shall counterfeit, or aid or abet in counterfeiting, the continental bills of credit, or who shall pass any such bill in payment, knowing the same to be counterfeit.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the said report be recommitted.

A petition from Antoine Felix Wiebert was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same, together with the papers accompanying it, be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

The board of war and ordnance, to whom was referred a petition from Carpenter Wharton, brought in their report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table: and that the president write to general Wash-

ington, and request him to inform Congress of the cost of a ration as furnished by the commissary-general.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, June 25, 1776.**

A letter of the 23d from general Washington, with sundry letters from major-general Schuyler, brigadier-general Sullivan, brigadier-general Arnold, and others, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the board of war and ordnance; who are directed to sit immediately, and report thereon as soon as possible.

A memorial from captain Stephen Rowe Bradley was presented to Congress and read, together with sundry accounts:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee on the treasury.

The marine committee having recommended captain Samuel Nichols, to be promoted to be major of marines; Andrew Porter, Joseph Hardy, Samuel Shaw, Benjamin Deane, and Robert Mullin, to be captains of marines; Daniel Henderson, David Love, Franklin Reed, and Peregrine Brown, to be first-lieutenants of marines; James M'Clure, William Gilmore, Abel Morgan, and Hugh Montgomery, to be second-lieutenants of marines; John Stewart to be captain; Thomas Pownal, first-lieutenant, and Richard Harrison, second-lieutenant, of marines, for the frigate building in Maryland:

John Langdon, esq. to be agent of prizes for the colony of New-Hampshire:

*Resolved*, That they be approved, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell to John Maxwell Nesbit & Co. 125 lb. of powder, for the use of the privateer they are fitting out.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to contract for making muskets, be directed to consider the propriety of granting a bounty, or other means, for encouraging the making of muskets.

Adjourned to four o'clock.

**EODEM DIE, P. M.**

A declaration of the deputies of Pennsylvania, met in provincial conference, was laid before Congress, and read; expressing their willingness to concur in a vote of Congress, declaring the United Colonies Free and Independent States.

The board of war and ordnance, to whom the several letters received this morning were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the number of men destined for the northern department, be augmented to four thousand:

That a colonel's commission be immediately issued to major Dubois, with instructions forthwith to raise a regiment to serve for three years, or during the war, and that the corps of officers be composed of such as have served with credit in Canada; no officer to receive his commission until his company be raised and armed; the arms of the people inlisting themselves, to be valued by the committees of the counties, where the companies are raised, and paid for by the continent, on their being mustered:

That it be earnestly recommended to the colony of New-Hampshire, to send immediately one regiment of their militia to Massachusetts-Bay, two regiments of their militia to Connecticut, one regiment of their militia to augment the troops destined for the northern department:

That letters be sent to the general assemblies of the colonies, from whence the several regiments of militia are and have been requested, earnestly pressing them to be expeditious in raising and equipping their troops, and requesting

the several assemblies to take upon themselves the care of providing the said troops with clothes, tents, and all necessary camp-equipage, and assuring them that the United Colonies will be answerable for the expense of the same:

That a regimental pay-master, who is not to be an officer of the army, be appointed by the said colonies to each of the said battalions, who shall keep all the accounts of his respective battalion, and to whom particular returns shall be made of the expense of clothing the said battalion, in order that the same may be deducted out of the pay of the soldiers, for whom the articles shall have been provided.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *June 26, 1776.*

A letter of the 21st from general Washington, and, one of the 26th, from brigadier-general Wooster, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That the letter from brigadier-general Wooster be referred to the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mons. Antoine Felix Weibert, who applies to be employed as an engineer in the continental army, be recommended to general Washington ~~as~~ a person who appears to be qualified to act in that capacity; but, as he asks no more at present than to be placed in a situation, in which he may be enabled to evidence his abilities, that the general be desired to employ him in such way, as he shall judge will best conduce to the good of the service, and answer Mons. Weibert's request.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed officers of the battalion to be raised under colonel Lewis Dubois; their commissions to be given them as soon as their complement of men shall be raised:

Jacobus S. Bruyn, lieutenant-colonel; William Goforth, major; David Dubois, Elias Van Banscholen, Thomas de Witt, Issac Wool, Philip D. B. Bevier, Richard Platt, Albert Pawling, and Cornelius T. Jansin, captains; James Gregg, Aaron Austin, Jonathan Piercy, Evans Wherry, Garret Van Wagenan, Henry Vandenburg, Nathaniel Conklin, and Henry Dodge, first lieutenants; Daniel Glans, second-lieutenant in the first company; John Coates, surgeon; and Henry Dubois, adjutant.

*Resolved*, That the president write to the convention of New-York, and explain to them, the reasons that induced the Congress to enter into the foregoing resolution; and to request the convention to appoint the other officers of the battalion, and to use their best endeavours in equipping and forwarding the said battalion as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to purchase the armed brig Catharine, with her guns, tackle, apparel and furniture, as she now lies in Connecticut.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. Bond, the sum of 9 30-90 dollars for medicines and attendance for three Indians:

To Benjamin Armitage, for boarding and lodging Thomas Folmer, the Indian interpreter, twenty days, the sum of 12 25-90 dollars.

To Richard Cheny, the sum of 4 82-90 dollars for victualling general Lee's guard, and that the same ought to be paid to John Morton, esq.

To Anthony Welte, for provisions supplied captain Nelson's company, the sum, of 18 18-90 dollars.

To Aaron Phips, the sum of 7 44-90 dollars for sundry expenses of general Lee's guard:

To John Osborne, the sum of 8 dollars; namely 6 dollars for boarding and lodging a sick soldier, and two dollars for a coffin for one of captain Vanzar's men:

To George Howes, for wagon-hire, &c. carrying money to Cambridge at the time Mr. Franks went, the sum of 70 40-90 dollars,

To Messrs. Hanson, Donaldson, and Franks, for carrying money to the camp in March last, the sum of 238 28-90 dollars:

To Isaac Sorrel, the sum of 26 85-90 dollars; of which 10 69-90 dollars were for the expenses of the prisoners that were brought from North-Carolina and the guard, the remainder for the expenses of the guard that went with powder, &c. to colonel Miles, at Marcus-hook.

To Henry Haller, the sum of 645 46-90 dollars; of which sum, captain John Nelson is to be charged, for two rifles, 24 dollars; the remainder, viz. expenses of captain John Nelson's company at Reading, 12 89-90 dollars; expenses of prisoners from St. John's and Chambly to 8th June, 538 47-90 dollars; Mr. Haller's pay, as commissary, from 30th March to 7th June, 70 days, at 75¢ dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That a bounty of ten dollars be given to every non-commissioned officer and soldier, who will enlist to serve for the term of three years.

*Ordered*, That the resolutions passed yesterday, be sent to general Washington, and that he be desired to afford such assistance to the northern or Canada department, as he shall be enabled to do consistently with the safety of New-York; and, from time to time, to give such directions as he may think expedient for the public service.

A paragraph of a letter from general Washington to one of the members being laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply the marine committee with one ton of powder, for the use of the vessel which they were this morning empowered to purchase.

*Resolved*, That Michael Hillegas, esq. be empowered and directed to pay such sums of money as are or may be due to the several signers of continental bills of credit, for their services, agreeable to the resolve of Congress for that purpose.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of William Whiting, a soldier who was wounded in the continental army at Quebec, brought in their report, which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid out of the public treasury to William Whiting, to enable him to return to his family at Norfolk, in Connecticut.

The committee on the treasury, to whom were referred the petition and accounts of Stephen Rowe Bradley, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That there be paid to Stephen Rowe Bradley the sum of 691 22-90 dollars, for the service of himself and his company, from the 25th day of January to the 25th day of February, during which time they were employed in the service of the continent.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, June 27, 1776.

A letter of the 17th from governor Trumbull, was laid before Congress and read; also,

Two petitions; one from colonel John Brown, the other from William Holmes:

*Resolved*, That the petition from colonel Brown be referred to the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada:

That the petition from William Holton be referred to the board of war and ordnance.

*Resolved*, That an order for 24 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor major Bicker ; he to be accountable.

Sundry letters from the southward, being received by express, were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from general Lee, dated Little-River, June 6th, enclosing two to him, one from John Rutledge, esq. the other from brigadier-general Armstrong ; both dated Charleston, South-Carolina, June 4th, advising, that 51 sail of the enemy were arrived there, and lying in sight of the town :

One from brigadier-general Lewis, dated Williamsburgh, the 18th of the same month, enclosing one to him from general Lee, of the 4th :

*Resolved*, That the said letters be referred to the board of war and ordnance :

The Congress then took into consideration the letter from governor Trumbull ; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed ; and, in the mean while, that governor Trumbull be desired to send to Congress, an account of the cannon left at New London by commodore Hopkins, their number, size, bore and weight, and also an account of the other cannon there.

A letter from the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read.

The board of war and ordnance, to whom the paragraph of a letter from the general was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That six companies of riflemen, in addition to the three companies now at New-York, be raised and the whole regimented ; and that a commission be granted to captain Stevenson, to be colonel of the said regiment of riflemen, which is to be inlisted for three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress ; the men to be allowed a bounty of ten dollars ; and that Moses Rawlins be lieutenant-colonel, and Otho Holland Williams, major of the said regiment :

That four companies of riflemen, for the said regiment, be raised in Virginia, and two in Maryland, the pay of the men to commence from the time they shall be armed and mustered : their arms to be appraised by the committee of the county, and paid for by the United Colonies :

That general Washington be directed forthwith to send to Congress a complete list of all the vacancies in the army, and the names of such officers as he can recommend for filling them.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, the sum of 241 51-90 dollars, a balance due for three teams that went to North-Carolina with powder ;

To Doctor Frederick Phyle, for medicines and attendance on the 5th Pennsylvania battalion, from the time of their embodying to the 13th of June, 1776, the sum of 532 51-90 dollars.

To John Bales, for camp-kettles, the sum of 68 dollars :

To Elizabeth Slaydon, the sum of 24 dollars, for nursing and boarding two soldiers, of which sum captain Steward is to be charged with 18 30-60 dollars, for nursing and boarding the man he wounded in the state-house yard ; the remainder to the continent ; the said 24 dollars to be paid to colonel T. Matlack :

To Rachel Hewen, the sum of 5 30-90 dollars, for nursing and boarding two soldiers of the continental army :

That there be repaid to Robert Moore the sum of seven dollars, which was stopped out of his pay by captain M. Smith ; the same having been by him expended for provisions, when he was left sick by his company in Canada :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the pay of doctor Huston, who was appointed surgeon of the

5th Pennsylvania battalion, he stopped till farther orders of Congress, and that the pay-master be notified thereof.

The committee to whom it was referred to devise a mode of raising the German battalion; voted on the 25th of May last, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That four companies of Germans be raised in Pennsylvania, and four companies in Maryland, to compose the said regiment:

That it be recommended to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, immediately to appoint proper officers for, and direct the enlistment of, the four companies to be raised in that colony:

That it be recommended to the convention, or, in their recess, to the council of safety of Maryland, immediately to appoint proper officers for, and direct the enlistment of, the four companies to be raised in that colony:

That the said companies be enlisted to serve for three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress, and receive bounty, pay, rations, and all other allowances equal to any of the continental troops:

That the said companies be entitled to pay and subsistence from the time of enlistment:

That the said companies, when raised, be formed into a battalion, under the command of such field officers as Congress shall appoint:

That the rank of the captains of the said companies be regulated as Congress shall hereafter direct:

That 5,000 dollars be sent to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and 5,000 dollars to the convention, or, in their recess, to the council of safety of Maryland, to defray the expense of raising the said companies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention, or, in their recess, to the council of safety of Maryland, to appoint the officers, and forward, with all possible expedition, the raising the two companies of riflemen.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, June 28, 1776.

The committee of claims, to whom were referred the petition and accounts of Thomas Thomson, reported,

That there ought to be paid to Thomas Thomson the sum of 750 dollars, in part of an account for lumber, said to have been delivered by Simon Metcalf to the forces belonging to the continent, at St. John's, in Canada:

The said committee farther reported, that there is due,

To Thomas Mayberry, the sum of 117 29-90 dollars, for plated iron:

*Ordered*, That the said sums be paid.

A petition from colonel James Easton was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada.

A petition from William Poole was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee for making provision for wounded and disabled soldiers.

Francis Hopkinson, esq. one of the delegates of New-Jersey, attended, and produced the credentials of their appointment, which was read, as follows, viz.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, *New-Jersey, Burlington, June 21, 1776.*

The Congress proceeded to the election of delegates to represent this colony in Continental Congress, when Richard Stockton, Abraham Clark, John Hart, and Francis Hopkinson, esqs. and Dr. John Witherspoon, were elected by ballot, to serve for one year, unless a new appointment be made before that time.

*Resolved*, That the following instructions be given to the delegates as aforesaid: The Congress empower and direct you, in the name of this colony, to join with

the delegates of the other colonies in Continental Congress, in the most vigorous measures for supporting the just rights and liberties of America; and, if you shall judge it necessary or expedient for this purpose, we empower you to join with them in declaring the United Colonies independent of Great-Britain, entering into a confederation for union and common defence, making treaties with foreign nations for commerce and assistance, and to take such other measures as may appear to them and you necessary for these great ends; promising to support them with the whole force of this province; always observing, that, whatever plan of confederacy you enter into, the regulating the internal police of this province is to be reserved to the colony legislature. By order of Congress.

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President.*

Extract from the minutes:

WM. PATTERSON, *Secretary.*

The board of war brought in a report, which was read in these words:

Monsieur Le chevalier de Kirmovan, having produced to the board indubitable credentials of his good character and superior abilities in the art of war, and particularly as an engineer, the board resolved to recommend him to Congress as a person who can be much confided in; and it is the opinion of the board, that the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to employ him in planning and laying out the fortification agreed by Congress, to be erected at Billingsport, on the river Delaware.

The said report being again read,

*Resolved*, That the same be agreed to.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hopkinson be added to the committee for preparing a plan of confederation.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell the committee of Salem county, in New-Jersey, 300 lbs. of powder.

The committee appointed to prepare a declaration, &c. brought in a draught, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A petition from Christopher Champlain was presented to Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Alsop, and Mr. Gerry.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wisner, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Floyd be a committee to confer with Anthony Mosengeil, on the subject of manufacturing sulphur:

That 30 dollars be advanced to the said committee, they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be empowered to advance to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania 100,000 dollars; the colony of Pennsylvania to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the committee for superintending the treasury, be directed to nominate and appoint six persons to sign and number the million of dollars ordered to be struck in small change.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday next.

MONDAY, July 1, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress and read, viz.

Three from general Washington, of 27th and 28th of June, with sundry letters and papers enclosed:

One from the convention of New-Jersey, of the 29th:

One from the convention of New-Hampshire of the 17th:

One from brigadier-general Lewis of the 17th:

One from Benjamin Harrison, jun.

*Resolved*, That an order for 6000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Richard Graham, of Virginia, in full of a draught in his favor of the 20th

June, by brigadier-general Lewis ; and that the same be charged to the account of Benjamin Harrison, deputy pay-master general for Virginia.

A resolution of the convention of Maryland, passed the 28th of June, was laid before Congress and read, as follows: "That the instructions given to their deputies in December last, be recalled, and the restrictions therein contained, removed ; and that the deputies of said colony, or any three or more of them, be authorized and empowered to concur with the other United Colonies or a majority of them, in declaring the United Colonies Free and Independent States ; in forming such further compact and confederation between them ; in making foreign alliances, and in adopting such other measures as shall be adjudged necessary for securing the liberties of America ; and that said colony will hold itself bound, by the resolutions of the majority of the United Colonies, in the premises ; provided, the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police of that colony be reserved to the people thereof."

The order of the day being read,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the resolution respecting independency:

That the declaration be referred to said committee.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole. After some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee had come to a resolution, which they desired him to report, and to move for leave to sit again.

The resolution agreed to by the committee of the whole being read, the determination thereof was, at the request of a colony, postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That a brigadier-general, acting in a separate department, be allowed an aid-de-camp.

A letter of the 29th from general Washington was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the letters this day received, be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the declaration respecting independence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, July 2, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read :

One from general Washington, of the 30th of June, enclosing sundry papers ; among which, a copy of a letter from lieutenant-colonel Campbell to general Howe :

One from the council of Massachusetts-Bay of the 26th :

One from governor Trumbull of the 20th of the same month, and one from the pay-master general, with a weekly account :

*Ordered*, That the last be delivered to the board of treasury :

That the letter from lieutenant-colonel Campbell to general Howe, be published :

That the other letters be referred to the board of war.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the resolution reported from the committee of the whole ; which was agreed to as follows :

*Resolved*, That these United Colonies are, and, of right, ought to be, Free and Independent States ; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them, and the state of Great-Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration

the declaration to them referred; but, not having had time to go through the same, desired him to move for leave to sit again:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the declaration respecting independence.

Congress being informed, that, in obedience to their order, captain Whipple and captain Saltonstal were arrived in Philadelphia,

*Resolved*, That the marine committee enquire into the complaints exhibited against them, and report thereon to Congress.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, July 3, 1776.

A letter from the convention of New-Jersey, of the 2d, and a letter from the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, dated August 21, together with an account of their expenses, and the minutes of their conference with the Indians in that department, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the account of the commissioners be referred to the committee on the treasury.

Congress took into consideration the letter from the convention of New-Jersey; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to send as many of the troops of their colony as they can spare, to Monmouth county, in New-Jersey, to the assistance of the inhabitants of that colony, and to be subject to the orders of the commander in chief; the said troops to be allowed the same pay and rations as the troops in the service of the continent, from the time of their march until their return:

That a circular letter be written to the committees of inspection of the several counties in Pennsylvania, where troops are raised, or raising, to form the flying-camp, requesting them to send the troops by battalions, or detachments of battalions, or companies, as fast as raised, to the city of Philadelphia, except those raised in the counties of Bucks, Berks, and Northampton, which are to be directed to march, as aforesaid, to New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey:

That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be sent to general Washington, and that he be desired to appoint a proper officer to command the flying-camp, and also direct proper persons to supply the men with rations.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to contract with shipwrights, to go to Lake-Champlain, on the following terms:

To allow each man 34 dollars and two-thirds per month; one month's pay to be advanced, on their giving security, if required:

Each man to be allowed a ration and a half, and one half-pint of rum, per day:

Their tools and arms to be valued:

Two-thirds of their wages to be paid, monthly, to whomsoever they shall leave the power of receiving it:

Their pay to commence from the day they sign articles, and continue until they are discharged, with an allowance of one day's pay for every twenty miles, between the place where they are discharged, and their respective homes.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Franklin and Mr. Wilson, two of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, be authorized to discharge the bills drawn by Mr. Morgan on the commissioners of that department.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the declaration; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee, not having yet gone through it, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a com-

mittee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the Declaration of Independence.

Ajourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, July 4, 1776.

*Resolved*, That application be made to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania for a supply of flints for the troops at New-York: and that Delaware government and Maryland, be requested to embody their militia for the flying-camp, with all possible expedition, and to march them, without delay, to the city of Philadelphia.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the declaration; and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have agreed to a declaration, which they desired him to report.

The declaration being read, was agreed to as follows:

## **A Declaration**

BY THE

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

**WHEN**, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly, all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present king of Great-Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having, in direct object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world:

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature; a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining, in the meantime, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose, obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in time of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined, with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment, for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws; and altering, fundamentally, the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hand.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction, of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress, in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions, have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their legislature, to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, **FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES**; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great-Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as **FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES**, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of **DIVINE PROVIDENCE**, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

The foregoing declaration was, by order of Congress, engrossed, and signed by the following members:

### JOHN HANCOCK.

<i>New-Hampshire,</i>	{ Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton.	<i>Pennsylvania,</i>	{ George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross.
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i>	{ Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry.	<i>Delaware,</i>	{ Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas M'Kean.
<i>Rhode-Island,</i>	{ Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery.	<i>Maryland,</i>	{ Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll, of Cr. rollton.
<i>Connecticut,</i>	{ Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.	<i>Virginia,</i>	{ George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, jun. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.
<i>New-York</i>	{ William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris.	<i>North Carolina,</i>	{ William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.
<i>New-Jersey,</i>	{ Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark.	<i>South-Carolina,</i>	{ Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, jun. Thomas Lynch, jun. Arthur Middleton, Button Gwinnett,
<i>Pennsylvania,</i>	{ Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith,	<i>Georgia,</i>	{ Lyman Hall, George Walton.

*Resolved,* That copies of the declaration be sent to the several assemblies, conventions and committees, or councils of safety, and to the several com-

manding officers of the continental troops; that it be proclaimed in each of the United States, and at the head of the army.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Morris and Mr. Hewes determine the hire of Mr. Walker's vessel, which was employed by commodore Hopkins in the service of the continent.

A letter of the 3d, from general Washington, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That the delegates of New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, be a committee to confer with the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and the field officers of the battalions of the said city and liberties, on the best means of defending the colonies of New-Jersey and Pennsylvania; and that they be empowered to send expresses where necessary :

That the secret committee be instructed to order the flints belonging to the continent, and now at Rhode-Island, to be sent to the general at New-York.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wisner be empowered to send a man, at the public expense, to Orange county, for a sample of flint-stone.

The Congress proceeded to the appointment of two commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department; and, the ballots being taken,

Jasper Yates and John Montgomery, esqrs. were elected.

*Ordered*, That Dr. Franklin and Mr. Wilson inform the above named gentlemen of their appointment, and desire them to attend the treaty with the Indians at Pittsburg, on the day appointed; and also to appoint some persons to procure goods necessary for the Indians.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for filling up the vacancies in the committee for Indian affairs.

*Resolved*, That the president be empowered to employ another private secretary.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be empowered to employ such a number of persons, as they shall find necessary, to manufacture flints for the continent; and, for this purpose, to apply to the respective assemblies, conventions and councils, or committees of safety of the United American States, or committees of inspection of the counties and towns thereunto belonging, for the names and places of abode of persons skilled in the manufactory aforesaid, and of the places, in their respective states, where the best flint-stones are to be obtained, with samples of the same.

*Resolved*, That an order for 3 dollars and 54-90ths, be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the express, who brought the despatches from Trenton.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Franklin, Mr. J. Adams and Mr. Jefferson, be a committee, to prepare a device for a seal for the United States of America.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell 25 lb. of powder to John Garrison, of North-Carolina.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, July 5, 1776.

A letter from captain Crawford, a prisoner of the 26th regiment, was read, requesting leave to visit the prisoners in the several places where they are confined :

*Resolved*, That, in the present situation of affairs, such leave be not granted. The committee on ways and means, brought in a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The account and vouchers of Mr. Price being laid on the table,

*Resolved*, That they be referred for adjustment to the board of treasury.

The board of war brought in a report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a regiment be raised out of the officers who served in Canada, on the same terms on which the regiment, to be commanded by colonel Dubois,

is to be raised ; and that the following persons be appointed officers of the said regiment :

Seth Warner, colonel :

Samuel Safford, lieutenant-colonel :

Elisha Painter, major :

Wait Hopkins, John Grant, Gideon Brownson, Abiather Angel, Simeon Smith, Joshua Stanton, ——— Seely, Jacob Vorsboroug, captains ; John Allen, ——— Fusset, ——— Walbridge, ——— Deane, James Gold, ——— Sill, Ebenezer Hide, Gamahel Painter, first lieutenants ;

Ebenezer Beaumont, adjutant.

*Resolved*, That the president write to governor Cooke, requesting him to order fifty ship-carpenters to be engaged, on the best terms, at the expense of the continent ; and sent to general Schuyler at Albany, as soon as possible, in order to build vessels for the defence of the lakes.

The committee of Congress, appointed to confer with the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and the field-officers of the five battalions of the said city, reported, that they have had a meeting with the committees and officers aforesaid, and have agreed to the following resolutions, viz.

That all the associated militia of Pennsylvania, (excepting the counties of Westmoreland, Bedford and Northumberland) who can be furnished with arms and accoutrements, be forthwith requested to march, with the utmost expedition, to Trenton, (except the militia of Northampton county, who are to march directly for New-Brunswick) in New-Jersey ; and that the said militia continue in service, until the flying-camp, of ten thousand men, can be collected to relieve them, unless they shall be sooner discharged by Congress :

That the militia march by companies to the place of rendezvous :

That the said militia be taken into the continental pay, and receive the same pay, allowances and rations, as the continental troops, from the time they begin their march, until they return to their respective homes :

That those of the three battalions of the Pennsylvania troops, now remaining in the province, be ordered to march immediately for New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey :

That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania provide as many tents as they can for said militia :

That the committees of inspection and observation, in the several counties, furnish a good kettle to every six men, and give all the assistance in their power, that the said militia be well armed and equipped, and march with the greatest expedition :

That the committees of inspection for the several counties of Pennsylvania, be desired to order such troops as they may raise for the flying-camp, to be marched to Trenton ; the resolve of Congress passed yesterday notwithstanding ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That this Congress highly approve the foregoing resolutions, and recommend it to the good people of Pennsylvania, to carry the same into execution with the same laudable readiness, which they have hitherto manifested in supporting the injured rights of their country.

*Resolved*, That colonel Hazlet, of the battalion in Delaware government, be ordered to station one company at Lewistown, and to march the remaining seven to Wilmington, and there remain until farther orders of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, while on actual service, receive four dollars a-day.

The committee on the treasury reported, that there is due,

To John Walker, esq. one of the commissioners of Indian affairs in the southern department, the sum of 869 67-90 dollars, for several horses, a wagon and geers, and expenses in travelling 2500 miles.

*Ordered*, That the said account be paid.

The committee appointed to consider the state of Georgia, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That for the defence of Georgia, there be an addition of two battalions, (one of them to consist of riflemen) to be raised on the same terms on which other continental battalions are now ordered to be raised:

That blank commissions for the field-officers be sent to the convention of Georgia, to be filled up with the names of such persons as the said convention shall judge proper:

That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions or councils of safety of Virginia, North and South-Carolina, to permit the raising troops, for the purpose aforesaid, within their respective states; and, if requested, to afford their advice and assistance, with regard to suitable persons for captains and subalterns, and that blank commissions be delivered to the delegates:

That four galleys be built at the expense of the United States, under the direction of the convention of Georgia, for the farther defence of the said state:

And whereas the delegates of Georgia have represented the necessity of erecting two forts, one at Savannah and the other at Sunbury:

*Resolved*, That two companies of artillery be raised, consisting of fifty men each, officers included, for the purpose of garrisoning such forts, in case they shall be erected, by and at the expense of Georgia; and that blank commissions be delivered to the delegates for the officers, to be filled up by the assembly or convention of the said state.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered, if he shall judge it advisable, to order three of the fullest regiments, stationed in Massachusetts-Bay, to be immediately marched to Ticonderoga; and that an equal number of the militia of that state, be taken into pay, and embodied for its defence, if the government of Massachusetts-Bay judge it necessary.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. John Coburne, who has acted as an assistant conductor of military stores in Canada, and has produced certificates of his having done his duty in that station, be allowed lieutenant's pay, from the first day of March to the first day of June last:

That a chaplain be appointed to each regiment in the continental army, and that their allowance be increased to thirty-three dollars and one-third of a dollar a month:

That immediate steps be taken, in the several colonies, to procure lead:

That the post-master general be directed immediately to have expresses established between this city and New-York, and that general Washington be desired to send off despatches to Congress every day:

That the secret committee be directed to send forthwith to general Lewis, at Williamsburgh, five tons of powder, for the use of the troops in the southern department, part of which is to be forwarded to South-Carolina:

That the British officers and soldiers who are prisoners, and now in New-Jersey, be sent from thence to the town of York, in Pennsylvania, and that the convention, or committee of safety of New-Jersey, be requested to carry this resolve into execution:

That four companies of the militia be directed to remain in Philadelphia, to guard the continental stores in that city.

The matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, July 6, 1776.

A letter of the 5th from the convention of New-Jersey, was received and read.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Carpenter Wharton be appointed commissary, to supply with rations the militia who are immediately to march from Pennsylvania to New-Jersey, until the commissary-general shall order otherwise:

That William Sherman, jun. be appointed pay-master of colonel Warner's regiment:

That major Rogers be sent to New-Hampshire, to be disposed of as the government of that state shall judge best.

Sundry letters were received and read, viz.

One from general Washington of the 4th and 5th:

One of the 1st from general Schuyler to general Washington; and,

One of the 24th of June, from brigadier-general Sullivan to general Schuyler:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the agents in Massachusetts-Bay and Rhode-Island, be directed to send the arms taken out of the Scotch transports, to general Washington, at New-York.

*Resolved*, That a copy of a letter received from J. Green be forwarded to general Washington, and that he be desired to send for such parts of the stores therein mentioned, as he shall think proper.

Application being made by William Kelsay, who has raised a company in New-Jersey, for a sum of money to defray the expenses of said company to New-York,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mease advance one month's pay to captain Kelsay, for the use of his company; he to be accountable.

The Congress proceeded to the election of members for the committee on Indian affairs, in the room of those absent; and, the ballots being taken, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. P. Livingston, and Mr. Huntington were chosen.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Floyd, Mr. Rodney, and Mr. Clark, be added to the committee on the miscarriages in Canada.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver one ton of powder to the convention of New-York; they to be accountable:

That general Schuyler be directed to collect and audit the public accounts of the late general Montgomery, and to include his pay and the allowance for his table in the adjustment.

The board of treasury laid before Congress an account of James Warren, esq. late pay-master general of the United Colonies; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made, viz..

For assistants, from 27th July, 1775, to 4th May, 1776, the sum of 276 dollars:

For sundry articles purchased for the use of the office in New-York, 3 dollars and forty-nine seventy-two parts of a dollar:

For horse-hire to William Wythrop, esq. and for his attendance and expenses in Philadelphia, 100 dollars:

*Ordered*, That Mr. Warren pay the balance in his hands to Ebenezer Hancock, esq. deputy pay-master general for the eastern department.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, July 8, 1776.

A letter of the 4th from general Washington, and one of the 6th from the convention of New-Jersey, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send four tons of powder, and a sufficient quantity of cartridge-paper, to general Mercer, for the use of the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of James Mease; he to be accountable.

A letter from Mrs. Connolly was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, that it be recommended to said committee, to make proper provision for Mrs. Connolly, till farther order of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of the military associators of Philadelphia, be directed not to order captain Peters out of the city, as his service and attendance is necessary in the war-office.

*Resolved*, That the post-masters, while in office, be excused from all military duty.

A letter of the 4th from the convention of Maryland, enclosing resolutions raising three thousand four hundred men for the flying-camp, was received and read :

*Resolved*, That major-general Gates be informed, that it was the intention of Congress to give him the command of the troops whilst in Canada, but that they had no design to vest him with a superior command to general Schuyler, whilst the troops should be on this side Canada; and that the president write to major-general Schuyler and major-general Gates, stating this matter, and commending to them to carry on the military operations with harmony, and in such manner as shall best promote the public service :

That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted to general Washington.

The committee of safety of Pennsylvania, having recommended Daniel Burkard, George Hubley, Jacob Bunner and Benjamin Weiser, to be captains of four companies of Germans to be raised in that state,

*Resolved*, That they be approved, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be vested with discretionary power to call to his assistance, at New-York, such of the continental regiments in the Massachusetts-Bay, as have not already received orders to march to Ticonderoga; and that the general court of that state be requested to supply their places with militia, if they think it expedient :

That the commissary general have full power to supply both armies, that upon the lakes as well as that at New-York; and also to appoint and employ such persons under him, and to remove any deputy-commissary, as he shall judge proper and expedient; it being absolutely necessary, that the supply of both armies should be under one direction.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a deputy quarter-master general for the flying camp; and, the ballots being taken,

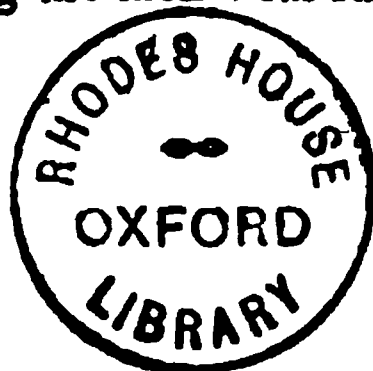
Clement Biddle was elected deputy quarter-master general for the flying-camp, and for the militia of Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, ordered to rendezvous at Trenton.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for the election of a deputy muster-master general for the flying camp and militia aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the committee for providing medicines, be directed to supply the militia aforesaid, with a sufficient quantity of suitable medicines.

*Resolved*, That an order for 60,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of Georgia, for the use of the continental battalions; the state of Georgia to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to appoint suitable places of rendezvous for the new battalions raising for Canada, and communicate the same to the assemblies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Connecticut and New-York; also, to issue his orders for supplying the men with rations, tents, a month's pay advance, and other necessaries.



*Resolved*, That Mr. Mease be directed to advance one month's pay to all of the militia as will engage to serve in the flying camp.

*Resolved*, That an order for 5000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Mr. George Evans, contractor for supplying the Delaware battalion; he to be accountable.

A letter of the 5th, from the committee of safety of Delaware government, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the delegates of Maryland and Delaware.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, July 9, 1776.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Abraham Sheppard be appointed captain, Samuel Finley, first lieutenant, William Killey, second lieutenant, Henry Bidinger, third lieutenant of the Virginia rifle company: and that the delegates of Virginia be empowered to write to the several county committees in that state, where they think it most proper and probable for the men to be raised, requesting the committees to recommend officers for the appointment of Congress, to fill a colonel Stevenson's regiment; the officers so recommended, to have power immediately to enlist their men, and commissions to be sent them as soon as possible; and that 7000 dollars be paid into the hands of colonel Stevenson, for bounty money, and other regimental expenses:

That a farther sum of 5000 dollars be paid into the hands of said colonel Stevenson, and 2,500 dollars to the delegates of Maryland, for the use of the said regiment; they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Palfrey, late aid-de-camp of general Washington, be promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the continental army.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy muster-master general for the flying camp, and militia ordered to rendezvous at Trenton; and, the ballots being taken,

Jonathan B. Smith was elected.

*Resolved*, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of the committee of secret correspondence, for the purchase of two vessels; they to be accountable.

The committee to whom the petition of William Poole was referred, brought in their report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That twenty dollars be paid to the said William Poole for his present support, till regulations are made for the relief of disabled soldiers.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Duche be appointed chaplain to Congress, and that he be desired to attend every morning at 9 o'clock.

*Resolved*, That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania release Alexander McDonald, of Kingsborough, a prisoner in the gaol of Philadelphia, on his parole, and that, upon signing the parole, he be treated agreeable to former resolutions of Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to settle a cartel for exchange of prisoners:

The members chosen, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Harrison.

*Resolved*, That such of the militia as are employed in making gun-locks, and such as are employed in making cannon and powder, be detained from marching on the present occasion to New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That five of the committee, appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, be a quorum to proceed to business.

The committee on the treasury, to whom the claims of John Walker and Willie Jones, esqrs. commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, were referred, reported, that there is due,

To John Walker, esq. for 139 days he was employed in the southern department, at the rate of 4 dollars a day, 556 dollars :

To Willie Jones, esq. for his expenses attending Indian affairs at Salisbury, and travelling to sundry places, 250 dollars, and for 95 days on duty, at 4 dollars a day, 380 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A memorial from Ludwick Karcher, was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, July 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That one month's pay be advanced to the militia of Pennsylvania, ordered to march to Trenton, the same to be paid after the men are mustered.

That Mr. J. Mease be directed to deliver to Mr. C. Biddle, the deputy quarter-master general for the flying-camp, and militia, such tents, and other articles as he has belonging to the continent, and which may be wanted for the militia and flying-camp.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the committee of Lancaster be empowered and directed, to keep a guard over the prisoners, in the barracks of that borough, and to surround the said barracks with a stockade fort :

That the privates who are prisoners in the town of Reading, be removed to the borough of Lancaster.

A letter from Ephraim Anderson was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That the president write to general Washington on the subject, enclosing Mr. Anderson's letter, and that Mr. Anderson be referred to the general.

The committee appointed to draw up rules and orders for the government of the house, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The standing committee for Indian affairs, brought in a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the committee for providing medicines, be directed to furnish Dr. Allison with a set of instruments, and that the director-general supply him with proper medicines.

The committee, to whom the cartel, between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster, and the several papers thereto relating, were recommitted, brought in their report, which was read as follows :

That, having made diligent enquiry into the facts, they find, that a party of 390 continental troops, under the command of colonel Bedel, was posted at the Cedars, about forty-three miles above Montreal ; that they had there formed some works of defence, the greater part of them picketed lines, the rest a breast-work of earth, with two field pieces mounted :

That, on Wednesday the 15th of May, colonel Bedel received intelligence, that a party of the enemy, consisting of about 600 regulars, Canadians and Indians, were on their way to attack his post, and were then within nine miles of it : that colonel Bedel, thereon, set out himself for Montreal, to procure a reinforcement ; whereupon, the command of the Cedars devolved on major Butterfield :

That, on Thursday, a reinforcement, under the command of major Sherburne, marched from Montreal for the Cedars, while a larger detachment should be getting ready to proceed thither with brigadier-general Arnold :

That, on Friday the 17th, the enemy, under the command of captain Foster, invested the post at the Cedars, and, for two days, kept up a loose, scattering

fire; that major Butterfield proposed, from the very first, to surrender the post and refused repeated solicitations from his officers and men, to permit them to sally out on the enemy:

That, on Sunday afternoon, a flag being sent in by the enemy, major Butterfield agreed to surrender the fort and garrison to captain Foster, capitulating with him, whether verbally or in writing does not appear, that the prison should not be put into the hands of the savages, and that their baggage should not be plundered:

That, at the time of the surrender, the enemy consisted of about 40 regulars, 100 Canadians, and 500 Indians, and no cannon; the garrison had sustained no injury from their fire, but the having one man wounded; they had twenty rounds of cartridges a man, thirty rounds for one field-piece, five for another, half a barrel of gun-powder, fifteen pounds of musket-ball, and provisions sufficient to have lasted them twenty or thirty days: major Butterfield knew that a reinforcement was on its way, and moreover, was so near the main body of the army, that he could not doubt of being supported by that:

That, immediately on the surrender, the garrison was put into the custody of the savages, who plundered them of their baggage, and even stripped them of their clothes;

That major Sherburne, having landed on Monday the 20th, at Quinze Cedars, about nine miles from the Cedars, and marched on with his party, consisting then of 100 men, to within four miles thereof, was there attacked by about 500 of the enemy: that he maintained his ground about an hour, and then, being constrained to retreat, performed the same in good order, receiving and returning a constant fire for about forty minutes; when the enemy, finding him to post advanced parties in such a manner as to intercept his farther retreat, they also were made prisoners of war:

That they were immediately put into the custody of the savages, carried where major Butterfield and his party were, and stripped of their baggage and wearing apparel:

That two of them were put to death that evening, four or five others at different times, afterwards; one of whom was of those who surrendered on capitulation at the Cedars, and was killed on the 8th day after that surrender: that one was first shot, and, while retaining life and sensation, was roasted, as is related by his companion, now in possession of the savages, who himself saw the fact; and that several others, being worn down by famine and cruelty, were left exposed in an island naked, and perishing with cold and hunger:

That, while major Sherburne was in custody of the enemy, captain Foster required of him, and the other officers, to sign a cartel, stipulating the exchange of themselves and their men for as many, of equal condition, of the British troops in our possession; farther, that notwithstanding the exchange, neither themselves nor men should ever again bear arms against the British government; and for the performance of this, four hostages were to be delivered, which they being under the absolute power of the enemy, did sign:

That on Sunday, the 26th, the prisoners were carried to Quinze Cedars when it was discovered that general Arnold was approaching, and making dispositions to attack them:

That captain Foster, having desired major Sherburne to attend a flag, which he was about to send to general Arnold, for confirmation of the cartel, carried him into the council of Indians, then sitting, who told him that it was a mercy never before shewn in their wars, that they had put to death so few of the prisoners; but that he must expect, and so inform general Arnold, that they should certainly kill every man who should thereafter fall into their hands:

That captain Foster joined in desiring that this bloody message should be delivered to general Arnold; and moreover, that he should be notified, that if he rejected the cartel, and attacked him, every man of the prisoners would be put to instant death:

That general Arnold was extremely averse from entering into any agreement, and was at length induced to do it by no other motive than that of saving prisoners from cruel and inhuman death, threatened in such terms as left doubt it was to be perpetrated, and that he did at length conclude it, after several flags received from captain Foster, and a relinquishment by him of the equal article restraining our soldiers from again bearing arms :

That the prisoners, so stipulated to be given up to the enemy, were not in the possession of general Arnold, nor under his direction, but were, at that time, distributed in various parts of the continent, under the orders of this house :

That four hostages were accordingly delivered to captain Foster, who were immediately plundered and stripped by the savages ; and on his part, were delivered one major, four captains, sixteen subalterns, and three hundred and fifty-five privates, as specified in a certificate of captain James Osgood and others, whom no specification by their names or numbers has yet been transmitted ; that he retained twelve Canadians, alleging in his justification, express orders to do ; and that, living in a military government, they were to be considered even in a worse light than deserters from his majesty's armies ; these he carried away in irons, but afterwards released : that he permitted the Indians to carry to their countries several other natives of the United States, for purposes unknown :

That, during the time of their captivity, not half food was allowed the prisoners ; they were continually insulted, buffeted, and ill treated by the savages ; and when the first parties of them were carried off from the shore to be delivered to general Arnold, balls of mud were fired at them, and at the last parties, musket balls .

The Congress, taking into consideration the foregoing report, came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That all acts contrary to good faith, the laws of nature, or the customs of civilized nations, done by the officers or soldiers of his Britannic majesty, or by foreigners or savages taken into his service, are to be considered as done by his orders, unless indemnification be made, in cases which admit of indemnification, and in all other cases, unless immediate and effective measures be taken by him, or by his officers, for bringing to condign punishment the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the act :

That the plundering the baggage of the garrison at the Cedars, stripping them of their clothes, and delivering them into the hands of the savages, was a breach of the capitulation on the part of the enemy, for which indemnification ought to be demanded :

That the murder of the prisoners of war was a gross and inhuman violation of the laws of nature and nations : that condign punishment should be inflicted on the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the same ; and that, for this purpose, it be required that they be delivered into our hands :

That the agreement entered into by general Arnold was a mere sponson on his part, he not being invested with powers for the disposal of prisoners not in his possession, nor under his direction ; and that, therefore, it is subject to be ratified or annulled, at the discretion of this house :

That the shameful surrender of the post at the Cedars is chargeable on the commanding officer : that such other of the prisoners as were taken there, shew a willingness and desire to fight the enemy ; and that major Sherburne, and the prisoners taken with him, though their disparity of numbers was great, fought the enemy bravely for a considerable time, and surrendered at last but on absolute necessity : on which consideration, and on which alone, it is resolved, that the said sponson be ratified ; and that an equal number of captives from the enemy, of the same rank and condition, be restored to them, as stipulated by the said sponson :

That, previous to the delivery of the prisoners to be returned on our part, the British commander in Canada be required to deliver into our hands the au-

thors, abettors, and perpetrators of the horrid murder committed on the prisoners, to suffer such punishment as their crime deserves ; and also, to make indemnification for the plunder at the Cedars, taken contrary to the faith of capitulation ; and that, until such delivery and indemnification be made, said prisoners be not delivered :

That, if the enemy shall commit any further violences, by putting to death, torturing, or otherwise ill treating the prisoners retained by them, or the hostages put into their hands, recourse be had to retaliation, as the means of stopping the progress of human butchery ; and that, for that purpose, punishments of the same kind and degree be inflicted on an equal number of the captives from them in our possession, till they shall be taught to respect the violated rights of nations :

That a copy of the above report and resolutions be transmitted to the commander in chief of the continental forces, to be by him sent to generals Clinton and Burgoyne.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, July 11, 1776.

Sundry letters were received and read, viz.

One of the 9th, from the convention of New-Jersey :

One of the same date, from the committee of Easton, and three from prisoners, desiring leave to come to Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the letter from the convention of New-Jersey, be referred to the board of war, who are desired to report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That Mr. T. Matlack be directed to deliver to Mr. C. B. deputy quarter-master general for the flying-camp, such of the contents of stores, in his possession, as may be necessary for said flying-camp.

The general having recommended the following gentlemen to be officers of the two remaining rifle-companies of colonel Stevenson's battalion at New York, viz.

Philemon Griffith, captain :  
Thomas Hussey Lucket, first-lieutenant :  
Adamson Tannehill, second-lieutenant :  
Henry Hardman, third-lieutenant :

Richard Davis, captain :  
Daniel Cressop, first-lieutenant :  
Nieman Tannehill, second-lieutenant :  
Henry Hardman, third-lieutenant :

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and commissions granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That an order for 213 dollars and one-third, be drawn by the treasurers, in favor of the delegates of Maryland, to defray the expenses of transporting powder to Maryland ; they to be accountable.

Three petitions, one from major Melchior, one from John Doyle, and one from Benjamin Flower, were presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

A petition from John Cox was presented to Congress and read : Whereupon

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to sell Mr. Cox half a ton of powder, for the use of the private vessel of war by him fitted out.

A petition from Cox, Ferman, and others, was presented to Congress, and read, together with a memorial from the committee of inspection and observation for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, recommending their case to the notice of Congress ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the petitioners have leave to dispose of the goods mentioned in their petition.

A letter of the 10th, from general Washington, and five letters of the 5th and 6th, from governor Trumbull, were laid before Congress, and read.

The board of war, to whom the letter from the convention of New-Jersey was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to the convention of New-Jersey, informing them, — that, as they have not enclosed to Congress, copies of general

Livingston's and brigadier-general Livingston's letters, no judgment can be made by Congress, concerning the contents of them, until copies are sent;—measures are taking in Pennsylvania and Maryland, for forming the flying-camp;—that, in the mean while, the associated militia are marching, in great numbers, from Pennsylvania, for the defence of New-Jersey;—that ammunition has been, and will be, supplied by this Congress, for the defence of New-Jersey;—that, with regard to the pay of the militia, Congress will observe the same rule of conduct towards New-Jersey, as towards other colonies:

That it be notified to the convention of Virginia, that the Congress are willing to take into continental possession, the forts at the mouths of Wheeling and the Great Kanaway, and the fort at Pittsburg, now in possession of that colony; and also to receive, on the continental establishment, the garrisons in the said forts, if the said convention shall desire it.

The marine committee reported, that in pursuance of the order of Congress, they have called before them, divers of the inferior officers, belonging to the ships Alfred and Columbus, and having heard their complaints against the captains, Saltonstal and Whipple, in their presence, are of opinion, that the charge against captain Saltonstal does not appear to the committee to be well founded; and that the charge against captain Whipple amounts to nothing more than an indelicate mode of behaviour to his marine officers; Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to order the captains, Saltonstal and Whipple, to repair to their respective commands; and that it be recommended to captain Whipple to cultivate harmony with his officers.

Mr. Franklin, one of the commissioners to Canada, laid before Congress an account of his expenditures:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the board of treasury.

The president acquainted Congress, that last evening, information was given him, of a conspiracy or plot carrying on for liberating the prisoners in the city of Philadelphia, and other evil designs; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, and that they, together with the president, be directed to make strict enquiry into the truth of the matter; and, if they find the information well grounded, to take such steps as they shall judge prudent and effectual, for defeating the machinations of the conspirators; and, in case of necessity, to call upon the brigadier-general, or commanding officer of the associators, for the aid of the military:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Stockton, Mr. Gwinnett, Mr. Mordecai and Mr. Wilson.

A letter from Mr. Mease was laid before Congress and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an order for 40,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Mr. Mease, to enable him to advance a month's pay to the military associators of Pennsylvania, ordered into New-Jersey, and to those who engage to form the flying-camp; he to be accountable.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Thomas Amor, for boarding general Lee's guard the sum of 34 22-90 dollars:

To colonel Nelson, for expenses of an express, the sum of 4 84-90 dollars:

To Casper Miller, for provisions, &c. for general Lee's guard, the sum of 27-90 dollars:

To Thomas Dandas for rifles supplied colonel Irwine's battalion, the sum of 78-90 dollars and that the same ought to be charged to said battalion:

To Joseph Hewes, esq. for expenses paid for the carriage, guard, &c. of powder, to North-Carolina, the sum of 660 34-90 dollars:

To Timothy Matlack, on account, 200 dollars:

To William Trickett, for stationary, the sum of 204 51-90 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee, to whom the letter from John Macpherson, of the 31st of May, was referred, reported,

That they have examined Mr. Macpherson, respecting the contents of his letter, who alleged, that he had a promise of being appointed commander in chief of the American navy, by Messrs. Randolph, Hopkins and J. Rutledge, a committee of Congress to whom he communicated an important secret, but that he produced no evidence in support of such allegation; that they enquired of Mr. Hopkins about this promise, in the presence of Mr. Macpherson, and that Mr. Hopkins declared he recollected nothing of the kind: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the application and request of Mr Macpherson is unreasonable.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, July 12, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One of the 11th, from brigadier-general Wooster:

One from Mrs. Conolly, and

One of the 10th, from the convention of New-Jersey:

*Resolved*, That the last be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed, on the 8th of May last, on the instructions given to commodore Hopkins, be discharged; and that the matters to them referred, be committed to the marine committee, who are invested with the same powers as the committee, now discharged, were at their appointment; and that the said marine committee be directed to proceed to enquire, as well how far the said commodore has complied with the instructions given him by the naval committee, as into the complaints reported by the marine committee on the 13th of June, to have been exhibited against him.

The committee appointed to examine the claims of Mr. Charles Walker, for the hire and expenses of his sloop Endeavour, and the damages he has sustained, in consequence of her being taken into the service of the United Colonies, and brought from New-Providence to New-London by commodore Hopkins, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said sloop Endeavour be restored to the said Charles Walker, with all her stores and materials, as she came from sea, and now lies at New-London:

That the sum of two thousand dollars be paid to the said Charles Walker, for the hire of her, and in lieu of all losses, damages, premiums of insurance, and expenses whatever:

That the said Charles Walker be permitted to invest the balance of the said 2000 dollars, or what remains, after defraying his expenses, and paying for the repairs of the out-fit of his vessel, in produce, and export the same.

The committee appointed to prepare articles of confederation brought in a draught, which was read:

*Ordered*, That eighty copies, and no more, of the confederation, as brought in by the committee, be immediately printed, and deposited with the secretary, who shall deliver one copy to each member:

That the printer be under oath to deliver all the copies, which he shall print, together with the copy-sheet, to the secretary, and not to disclose either directly or indirectly, the contents of the said confederation:

That no member furnish any person with his copy, or take any steps by which the said confederation may be re-printed, and that the secretary be under the like injunction.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the memorial of the director-general of the American hospital, brought in their report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hopkinson be added to the marine committee :

*Resolved*, That the secretary be empowered to employ an assistant clerk.

The committee on the treasury, to whom the account of Dr. Franklin, one of the commissioners to Canada, was referred, reported, that there is due to said Dr. Franklin, the sum of 1221 13-90 dollars ; of which

560 dollars to be charged to brigadier-general Arnold :

124 do. advanced to Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, esq.

164 do. and 78-90ths, paid for bedding, &c. for the use of the commissioners, and which now remains deposited with the commissary of stores at Albany, and

372 dollars and 30-90ths, expended by Messrs. Franklin and J. Carroll, in their journey to, and from, and in, Canada :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday next.

The Congress being called together on

SUNDAY, *July 14*, 1776,

Two letters from general Washington, dated 11th and 12th, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That an order for 20,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of C. Biddle, deputy quarter-master general, for the use of the flying-camp and militia ordered to New-Jersey; he to be accountable :

That Mr. Biddle be directed to use every method to forward the flour at Trenton to the places where it is wanted :

That he be empowered to appoint an assistant :

That he be directed to furnish tents, camp-kettles, and canteens for an army of 20,000 men, including such of those articles, as he has received from Mr. Mease :

That he be directed to employ one or more armourers for the army in New-Jersey :

That application be made to the convention of New-Jersey to supply all the lead they possibly can for the flying-camp and militia :

That application be made to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, desiring them to supply the flying-camp, and militia, in New-Jersey, with as many musket cartridges, well balled, as they can possibly spare :

That the secret committee be directed to supply the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, with a quantity of powder, equal to that spared to the continent in cartridges :

That an express be sent to overtake the powder-wagons gone to Virginia, with a letter to colonel F. Lewis, desiring him to send in the return-wagons, all the lead he can collect at Fredericksburg :

That the committee, or council of safety of Virginia, be requested to send to Philadelphia, by the return of the wagons, as much of the lead they now have at Williamsburgh, as they can spare, and to order from the mines 15 or 20 tons more of lead to Philadelphia, as soon as possible :

That a letter be written to the commanding officer in New-Jersey, to march such of the militia, and flying-camp, to Brunswick or other places in New-Jersey, as he may judge necessary, and most conducive to the public service ; provided that this does not interfere with any prior directions of general Washington :

That the committee of safety of Pennsylvania be requested, immediately, to order to the several places of their destination, all the British officers, prisoners, in this city : their wives not to be desired to go until the weather is more suitable :

That the commanding officer in Pennsylvania be desired to issue fresh orders, and exert himself, to forward the immediate march of the militia to New-Jersey: The service requiring their being immediately embodied, as appears by the advices received by express from general Washington:

That the deputy quarter-master-general be directed to request the use of some house of public worship, to cover the troops during their short stay in this city.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**MONDAY, July 15, 1776.**

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from Mr. J. Jay, of the 6th, enclosing a memorial from Samuel Tredwell Pell, of the manor of Pelham:

One from the committee of Lancaster, of the 11th:

One from the committee of Reading, of the 13th; and,

Two from the convention of New-York, of the 11th, with sundry papers enclosed; among which were the following resolutions:

**"IN CONVENTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK,  
"White-Plains, July 9, 1776.**

**"Resolved unanimously,** That the reasons assigned by the Continental Congress for declaring the United Colonies Free and Independent States, are cogent and conclusive; and, that while we lament the cruel necessity which has rendered that measure unavoidable, we approve the same, and will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, join with the other colonies in supporting it.

**"Resolved unanimously,** That the delegates of this state, in the Continental Congress, be, and they hereby are authorized to concert and adopt all such measures as they may deem conducive to the happiness and welfare of the United States of America.

**"Extract from the minutes,**

**"ROBERT BENSON, Secretary."**

**Resolved,** That the letters from the convention of New-York, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war:

That the general's letters of the 10th, 11th, and 12th, be referred to the board of war.

**Resolved,** That the case of the officers ordered from New-Jersey to Pennsylvania, be referred to the board of war, and that they be directed to examine into the conduct of said officers, and their servants; and to order them to such places, and to be disposed of in such manner, as they shall think proper.

**Resolved,** That the sum of 55 dollars be paid to major Henry Sherburne, for his expenses from the 6th of June, the time he left Canada, to this day, with a farther allowance of eight days expenses to join his regiment.

**Resolved,** That two members be elected for the board of treasury, in the room of two who are absent.

The members chosen, Mr. P. Livingston and Mr. Read.

A letter from an officer of colonel Hazen's battalion, was laid before Congress, and read.

**Resolved,** That it be referred to the committee on the miscarriages in Canada.

A petition and memorial of captain James Ross, was received and read:

**Resolved,** That it be referred to the committee of claims.

**Resolved,** That it be recommended to Patrick Henry, esq. governor of Virginia, to give orders for manning and sending to sea, under convoy, the brigantine Fanny, captain Tokely, which is loaded on account of the continent.

**Resolved,** That a committee, to consist of a member from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, be appointed to consider the propriety and means of augmenting the flying camp:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Stone, Mr. Read, Mr. Morton, and Mr. Stockton.

*Resolved*, That the battalion for the defence of the western frontiers, be raised in the counties of Westmoreland and Bedford, in the following proportions, to wit: seven companies in Westmoreland, and one company in Bedford: That the commissioned officers of the several companies, be appointed by a committee of the county in which they are to be raised.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the field officers of the main battalion.

*Resolved*, That a chief physician be appointed for the flying camp, and that his pay be four dollars a day:

The ballots being taken and examined, Doctor William Shippen, jun. was elected.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing a commissary of military stores, and a deputy adjutant-general for the flying camp.

*Resolved*, That Thursday morning be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the committee of ways and means.

*Resolved*, That Alexander M'Donnald, son of captain M'Donnald, be liberated from his parole, and allowed to reside with his father.

A petition from John Hannum, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the same, together with the papers accompanying it, be referred to the secret committee.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, *July* 16, 1776.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from general Washington, of the 14th:

One from brigadier-general Sullivan, of the 2d, from Crown-Point:

One from the committee of Lancaster, of the 13th:

One from Samuel Blackden, of the 16th:

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington be referred to the board of war:

That Samuel Blackden be referred to the deputy pay-master and deputy commissary-general in the northern department.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be desired to lodge powder with such persons as he may think proper, for the use of such parts of the state of New-York, as he may apprehend exposed to danger, and that the commanding officer in New-Jersey do the same in that colony; and that general Washington, and the said commanding officer in New-Jersey, be empowered to draw, from the stores of Messrs. Wisner, Livingston and Ford, any powder which may be requisite for these purposes, or for the use of their respective camps.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: whereupon,

*Resolved*, That there be appointed, by the commanding officer of each regiment in the continental army, a serjeant-major, quarter-master serjeant, drummer and fife-major, who shall respectively hold no other appointment but the before mentioned, and that their pay be one dollar a month each, more than that allowed to a serjeant, drum or fife in said regiment:

That a warrant be made out to John Doyle, to be a captain of a company of men to be raised for three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress; his commission to be given him as soon as his company is full:

That a pay-master be appointed to each regiment in the army of the United States, with a salary of 26 dollars and two-thirds a month.

That the application to Congress from Mr. Rowland Chambers, desiring to be appointed pay-master to the New-Jersey troops at New-York, cannot be complied with, as such an appointment would interfere with the duty of the pay-master general, within whose department it properly lies:

That half a dollar a week be allowed to each of the Connecticut light horse, who have joined the army at New-York, for the maintenance of his horse, for so long time, only, as the general shall think it necessary for such horse to continue in the service :

That general Schuyler be directed to take every possible precaution to cleanse the army, under his command, from the infection of the small pox :

That it be recommended to the convention of Pennsylvania, now sitting, to take such measures as they may judge proper and necessary, for procuring as much lead, within that state, as can be obtained for the supply of the flying-camp :

That three commissioners be appointed by Congress, to repair, as soon as may be, to New-York, there to audit the accounts of the commissary-general, quarter-master general, and director-general of the hospital, and all other accounts of the army; the said commissioners to take an oath for the faithful execution of their trust :

That three commissioners be appointed, for the like purposes, in the northern army :

That general Washington be informed, that the bounty granted by the resolution of Congress of the 26th of June, was intended as a general regulation, and to extend to all such men, now in the continental service, and all others, who will enlist for the term of three years, to be computed from and after the expiration of the term of their present enlistment.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Kirmovan be appointed an engineer in the continental service, with the pay of 60 dollars a month, and the rank of lieutenant-colonel :

That he be ordered immediately to repair to New-Jersey, and put himself under the command of the officer commanding the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That Richard Humpton be employed in the continental service, with the rank and pay of lieutenant-colonel :

That Samuel Dawson be employed in the continental service, with the rank and pay of captain :

That they be ordered to repair immediately to New-Jersey, and put themselves under the command of the officer commanding the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be desired to call to his assistance, at New-York, two thousand of the men who have marched into New-Jersey to form the flying-camp; and that the convention of New-Jersey be requested immediately to supply their places with an equal number of the militia of that state: that letters be written to the states of Massachusetts-Bay, Connecticut and New-Jersey, setting forth the situation of our affairs in the New-York department, and pressing them immediately to comply with the requisition of Congress of the 3d of June :

That the situation of our army at New-York be pointed out to the state of Connecticut; and that it be earnestly recommended to that state, immediately to send all the militia thereof, which can be spared, into New-York, to reinforce the army there, and continue in service until the proportions requested of the several states shall arrive.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a commissary of military stores for the flying-camp; and, the ballots being taken, Benjamin Flower, esq. was elected.

A letter from S. Chase, esq. of the 8th, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the same, together with the petition of Mr. Mentges, read the 12th, be referred to the delegates of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

A petition from captain Benedict was presented to Congress, and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a copy of said petition be sent to general Schuyler, and that he be desired to order the accounts of captain Benedict to be settled and paid, or to inform Congress of the reasons why payment ought to be withheld.

**Resolved**, That Mr. Wisner be empowered to employ a proper person to manufacture gun-flints.  
**Adjourned** to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, July 17, 1776.**

**Resolved**, That the secret committee be directed immediately to deliver to J. Mease, half a ton of saltpetre, to be by him forwarded to colonel Moy, quarter-master general.

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.

One from the convention of New-York, dated the 12th, with sundry papers enclosed, which were referred to the board of war :

One from brigadier-general Wooster ;

One, of the 11th, from Richard Ellis ; and,

One of the 15th, from Carpenter Wharton.

**Resolved**, That an order for 15,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in or of Carpenter Wharton ; he to be accountable.

The board of war, to whom the letter of general Washington, of the 14th, was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration ; whereupon,

**Resolved**, That general Washington, in refusing to receive a letter said to be sent from lord Howe, addressed to "George Washington, esq." acted with dignity becoming his station ; and, therefore, this Congress do highly approve the same ; and do direct, that no letter or message be received, on any occasion whatsoever, from the enemy, by the commander in chief, or others, the commanders of the American army, but such as shall be directed to them in the characters they respectively sustain.

The president informed Congress, that he had been under the disagreeable necessity of committing captain Gamble to prison, on account of his ill-behaviour ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the board of war be directed to enquire into the conduct of captain Gamble, since he was made prisoner of war, and report specially to Congress.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the memorial of the director-general of the American hospital ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the number of hospital surgeons and mates be increased, in proportion to the augmentation of the army, not exceeding one surgeon and five mates to every five thousand men, to be reduced when the army is reduced, or when there is no further occasion for such a number :

That as many persons be employed in the several hospitals, in quality of store-keepers, stewards, managers, and nurses, as are necessary for the service, for the time being, to be appointed by the directors of the respective hospitals :

That the several regimental chests of medicines, and chirurgical instruments, which now are or hereafter shall be, in the possession of the regimental surgeons, be subject to the inspection and enquiry of the respective directors of hospitals, and the director-general ; and that the said regimental surgeons shall, from time to time, when thereto required, render account of the said medicines and instruments to the said director, or if there be no director in any particular department, to the director general ; the said accounts to be transmitted to the director-general, and by him to this Congress ; and the medicines and instruments not used by any regimental surgeon, to be returned when the regiment is reduced, to the respective directors, and an account thereof by them rendered to the director-general, and by him to this Congress :

That the several directors of hospitals, in the several departments, and the regimental surgeons, where there is no director, shall transmit to the director-general regular returns of the number of surgeons' mates, and other officers em-

ployed under them, their names and pay ; also, an account of the expenses and furniture of the hospital under their direction ; and that the director-general make report of the same, from time to time, to the commander in chief, and this Congress :

That the several regimental and hospital surgeons, in the several departments, make weekly returns of the sick to the respective directors in their departments :

That no regimental surgeon be allowed to draw upon the hospital of his department, for any stores except medicines and instruments ; and that, when any sick person shall require other stores, they shall be received into the said hospital, and the rations of the said sick persons be stopped, so long as they are in the said hospital ; and that the directors of the several hospitals report to the commissary the names of the sick, when received into, and when discharged from the hospital, and make a like return to the board of treasury :

That all extra expenses for bandages, old linen, and other articles necessary for the service, incurred by any regimental surgeon, be paid by the director of that department, with the approbation of the commander thereof :

That no more medicines belonging to the continent be disposed of, till further order of Congress :

That the pay of the hospital-surgeons be increased to one dollar and two-thirds of a dollar by the day ; the pay of the hospital mates to one dollar by the day ; and the pay of the hospital apothecary to one dollar and two-thirds of a dollar by the day ; and that the hospital surgeons and mates take rank of regimental surgeons and mates :

That the director-general, and the several directors of hospitals, be empowered to purchase, with the approbation of the commander of the respective departments, medicines, and instruments for the use of their respective hospitals, and draw upon the pay-master for the same, and make report of such purchases to Congress.

*Resolved*, That Nicholas Hauseigger be colonel ; George Stricker, lieutenant-colonel ; Ludewick Wiltner, major of the German battalion.

*Resolved*, That another company be added to the German battalion :

That David Welper be appointed captain of said company.

*Resolved*, That Samuel Brady be first lieutenant, William M. Murray, second lieutenant, Henry Fortney, third lieutenant, of captain Doyle's independent rifle company.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy pay-master general for the flying camp ; and the ballots being taken,

Richard Dallam, esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That colonel Smallwood, from Maryland, be ordered to repair, as soon as possible, with the troops under his command, to New-York, and put himself under the command of the general :

That the general be informed that these troops are to be considered as part of the two thousand which he was empowered to call to his assistance from the flying-camp, by the resolution passed yesterday.

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the convention of New-Jersey, to cause all the stock on the sea-coast, which they shall apprehend to be in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy, to be immediately removed, and driven back into the country to a place of security.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to revise the journals, and direct what parts ought to be published :

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Lynch, jun. and Mr. Hopkinson.

A petition from Jean Baptista de Vidal, of Canada, was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of five, and that they be directed to enquire into the character of the petitioner, and all others in similar circumstances, applying for relief, and report thereon to Congress :

The members chosen, Mr. Rush, Mr. Paca, Mr. Heyward, Mr. Chase, and Walton.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Morris, be a committee to bring in a resolution for subjecting to confiscation the property of the subjects of the crown of Great-Britain, and particularly of the inhabitants of the British West Indies, taken on the high seas, or between high and low-water mark.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the rules and orders for the government of the house; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the following rules be observed:

1. So soon as nine states are present, that the Congress proceed to business.
  2. No member shall depart from the service of the house, without permission of the Congress, or order from his constituents.
  3. No member shall read any printed paper in the house during the sitting thereof, without leave of the Congress.
  4. When the house is sitting, no member shall speak to another, so as to interrupt any member who may be speaking in the debate.
  5. Every member, when he speaks, shall rise from his seat, and address himself to the chair, and when he has finished, shall sit down again.
  6. No member shall speak more than twice in any one debate, without leave of the house.
  7. When two members rise together, the president shall name the person to speak.
  8. No motion shall be debated, until the same be seconded.
  9. When a motion shall be made, and seconded, it shall be reduced to writing, if desired by the president or any member, delivered in at the table, and read by the president, before the same shall be allowed to be debated.
  10. When a motion is made and seconded, the matter of the motion shall receive a determination by the question, or be laid aside, by general consent, postponed by the previous question, before any other motion be received.
  11. If a question in a debate contain more parts than one, any member may have the same divided into as many questions as parts.
  12. No person shall be appointed to any office of profit, unless he shall have the consent of seven states, nor shall any ballots be counted, unless the person to whom the ballots shall be given, be first named to the house, before the balloting be gone into.
- Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *July 18, 1776.*

The delegates from Maryland laid before Congress the credentials of a new pointment made by their convention, which were read as follows:

“IN CONVENTION, ANNAPOLIS, *July 4, 1776.*

“*Resolved*, That the honorable Matthew Tilghman, esq. and Thomas Johnson, jun. William Paca, Samuel Chase, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and Robert Alexander, esqrs. or a majority of them, or of any three more of them, be deputies to represent this colony in Congress, in as full and ample manner as the deputies of this colony might have done under any pointment heretofore made, until the next convention shall make farther order therein. Extract from the minutes:

G. DUVALL, *Clerk.*”

A letter from general Washington, of the 15th, was laid before Congress, and read; also, sundry intercepted letters from lord Howe to governors Franklin, Penn, Eden, Dunmore, Martin and Wright, together with sundry letters to several private persons:

*Resolved*, That these letters be referred to a committee of three, and that they be directed to examine the private letters, and deliver to the persons to whom directed, such of said letters as contain nothing but private matters.

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Paine and Mr. Carroll.

A letter of the 17th from general Washington, enclosing sundry despatches from general Schuyler;

Also, a letter of the 16th, from brigadier-general Mercer, were received and read :

*Resolved*, That these be referred to the board of war.

A letter of the 14th, from the committee of inspection for the county of Cumberland, was read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 2,600 dollars be sent to the committee of inspection and observation for the county of Cumberland, for the use of the troops raising in that county for the flying-camp; the said committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the board of war :

The member chosen, Mr. Carroll.

The committee appointed to prepare a plan of treaties to be entered into with foreign states or kingdoms, brought in a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the draught of Ephraim Blaine, for two thousand dollars, on account of blankets, purchased by order of Congress for the continental troops in Virginia, be paid, and charged to the account of said Ephraim Blaine.

*Resolved*, That the convention of Pennsylvania be informed, that the Congress have agreed to the raising of a battalion in the counties of Westmoreland and Bedford, for the defence of the western frontiers, and that they be requested immediately to recommend proper persons to Congress for field officers for said battalion.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee appointed to contract for the making cannon :

The members chosen, Mr. Chase and Mr. Heyward.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to morrow.

#### FRIDAY, July 19, 1776.

*Resolved*, That two months pay be advanced to colonel Kirmovan ; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn for 400 dollars, on the treasurers, in favor of David S. Franks, in full of brigadier-general D. Wooster's draught, in his favor, on Jonathan Trumbull, dated at Chambly, the 30th of May, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the subaltern officers of the German battalion, do not rank from the dates of their commissions, but that their ranks be established hereafter by Congress.

The committee of safety of Pennsylvania, having recommended Frederick Rowlwagen, Peter Boyer, William Rice, and Jacob Bower, for first lieutenants: George Shaffer, George Hawbecker, John Landenberger, and Frederick Yeiser, for second lieutenants: John Weidman, Christian Helm, Christian Godfried Swartz, and Jacob Cramer, for ensigns of the four German companies raising in Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be desired to enquire into the complaints of the soldiers under his command, and give strict orders, that no higher price be charged for the goods furnished to the soldiers, than the first cost of them, and five per cent. for charges :

That the resolution of Congress, prohibiting any officer from holding more than one, be sent to general Schuyler:

That a letter be written to general Schuyler, requesting him to recommend, in the strongest terms, harmony between the officers and troops of the different States; to discountenance and suppress all provincial reflections and ungenerous jealousies of every kind, and to promote, by every possible means, discipline, order, and zeal in the public service.

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the convention of Pennsylvania, to hasten, with all possible expedition, the march of the associators into New-Jersey, agreeable to a former request of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of Maryland be directed to inform the commanding officer of the Maryland troops, that Congress expect he will immediately march with his troops to New-York.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for subjecting to confiscation the property of the subjects of Great-Britain, &c. brought in the same, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, and that the same be taken into consideration Monday next.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy adjutant-general for the army-camp; and the ballots being taken, Samuel Griffin, esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Griffin, as deputy adjutant-general, have the rank of colonel.

The committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the committee have leave to sit again.

The committee, to whom the letters from lord Howe to Mr. Franklin, &c. were referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a copy of the circular letters, and the declaration enclosed in lord Howe to Mr. William Franklin, Mr. Penn, Mr. Eden, lord Dunmore, Mr. Martin, and sir James Wright, which were sent to Amboy, by a flag, and forwarded to Congress by general Washington, be published in the several gazettes, that the good people of these United States may be informed of what nature are the commissioners, and what the terms, with expectation of which, the insidious court of Britain has endeavored to amuse and disarm them, and that the few, who still remain suspended by a hope founded either in the justice or moderation of their late king, may now, at length, be convinced, that the honor alone of their country is to save its liberties.

The Congress proceeded to the election of commissioners for settling the accounts of New-York; and, the ballots being taken,

Mr. Wm. Denning, Mr. Thos. Smith, and Mr. James Stevenson, were elected.

A letter of the 2d, from general Lee at Charleston, enclosing sundry papers, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That an extract of general Lee's letter be published.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to contract for the making cannon, be empowered to contract with Messrs. Hughes for one thousand tons of cannon, on the terms by them proposed.

*Resolved*, That the paper makers in Pennsylvania be excused from proceeding with the associators to New-Jersey.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### SATURDAY, July 20, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Lee, with the papers enclosed, which were received and read yesterday, be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the United States of America be given to major-general Lee, colonel William Moultrie, colonel William Thompson, and the officers and soldiers under their command, who, on the 28th of June last, repulsed, with so much valor, the attack which was made that day on the state of South-Carolina, by the fleet and army of his Britannic majesty :

That Mr. President transmit the foregoing resolution to general Lee, colonel Moultrie and colonel William Thompson.

A petition and memorial of Monsieur Polissier was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The committee appointed to settle a cartel for the exchange of prisoners, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, and that the same be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The convention of Pennsylvania having directed the common prisoners to be removed from the new gaol to the old, and the said new gaol to be given up to the Congress for the use of the state prisoners,

*Resolved*, That Robert Jewel be appointed keeper of the said new gaol, and that he take custody of the prisoners committed to his charge.

*Resolved*, That the plan of treaties be printed for the use of the members, under the restrictions and regulations prescribed for printing the plan of confederation ; and that, in the printed copy, the names of persons, places and states, be omitted.

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Lewis be directed to forward to South-Carolina, the whole five tons of powder sent to him for the use of Virginia and South-Carolina.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3000 dollars, part of the 10,000 dollars voted for the commissioners of Indian affairs in the middle department, be advanced to Mr. J. Wilson, to be by him forwarded to the commissioners appointed to attend the treaty at Pittsburg.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 210 dollars be advanced to the captain of the guard who is to escort the prisoners from New-Jersey to the place of their destination, in order to defray expenses ; he to be accountable.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a brevet commission of lieutenant-colonel be granted to Mons. Jaque Antoine de Franchessin, a knight of the order of St. Louis, an experienced officer in the French service, and who is well recommended in letters from abroad ; and that he be ordered to join the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Senter be recommended to Dr. Morgan ; who is desired to examine him ; and if, upon examination, he be found qualified, to employ him in the hospital as a surgeon.

A letter of the 19th, from general Washington, enclosing sundry papers ; and,

A letter of the 13th, from governor Trumbull, with a list of the cannon at New-London, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That the deputy quarter-master general for the flying-camp, be directed to deliver to colonel Smallwood, for the use of the Maryland troops, such necessaries, in his possession, belonging to the continent, as the said troops may want.

The delegates of Pennsylvania produced credentials of a new appointment, which were read as follows :

“ IN CONVENTION FOR THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, Saturday, July 20, 1776.

“ The house met according to adjournment ; when, according to the order of the day, they immediately proceeded to the election of delegates to serve in the Continental Congress ; and chose for that service, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, colonel George Ross, George Clymer, esq. Robert Morris, esq. colonel

James Wilson, John Morton, esq. Dr. Benjamin Rush, colonel James Smith, and George Taylor, esq.

" True extract from the minutes,

JOHN MORRIS, *Secretary.*"

*Resolved*, That colonel Hazlet be ordered to march immediately with his battalion, to Philadelphia, and there wait the further orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 200,000 dollars be sent to the deputy pay-master general for Virginia; he to be accountable.

The convention of Pennsylvania, having recommended gentlemen for field-officers of the battalion ordered to be raised for the defence of the western frontiers, Congress proceeded to the election; when,

Eneas M'Coy was elected colonel; George Wilson, lieutenant-colonel; Richard Butler, major.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 12,500 dollars be advanced to colonel M'Coy, for the bounty and expense of raising said battalion; he to be accountable.

John Boyd was elected pay-master to said battalion.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To captain Dundee, for his subsistence to the 19th instant, and for carriage of baggage, 86 dollars:

To Dr. Beaumont, to the same date, 85 22-90 dollars:

To ensign M'Leod, to the 20th instant, 110 60-90 dollars:

To Finley Miller, surgeon's mate of the 26th regiment, to the 19th of July instant, 79 dollars:

To Arthur Wadman, lieutenant of the 26th regiment, to the 22d of July instant, 162 60-90 dollars:

To James Gill, surgeon of artillery, to the 19th of July instant, 74 dollars:

To Jacob Shalek, lieutenant of artillery, to the 19th of July inst. 74 dollars:

To lieutenant Ibbetson Hamar, to the 19th of July instant, 40 dollars:

To captain Hesketh, for carriage, 75 30-90 dollars; and, that the same ought to be paid, agreeable to their request, to Peter Dundee, captain of the royal fuzileers:

That there is due to Michael Brecht, for provisions and attendance of sick soldiers at Reading, the sum of 17 42-90 dollars:

To Bryan Lefferty, a hostage sent from Tryon county, for his subsistence and expenses thence to Philadelphia, 41 80-90 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Franklin may, if he thinks proper, return an answer to the letter he received from Lord Howe.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for encreasing the flying-camp, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Lewis be directed to order two battalions of continental troops, in Virginia, to march, with all possible despatch, to the flying-camp, in New-Jersey, under the command of brigadier-general Mercer; and that if the governor and privy-council of Virginia shall have reason to apprehend an invasion of that state, and shall call to its defence an equal number of minute-men or militia, the same, while in service, shall be on the pay and support of the continent:

That the convention of Pennsylvania be requested to augment their quota for the flying-camp, with four battalions of militia, and the convention of New-Jersey to raise, for the said flying-camp, three battalions of militia, in addition to those formerly desired by Congress, and to send the same, with all possible despatch, to the said flying-camp. And, that these several battalions be officered, paid and provided, as directed by the former resolutions for forming the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That in case Mr. Heyman Levy order any money to be paid in Albany to the deputy pay-master general for the northern department, the

same shall, upon advice of such money so paid, be repaid to him or his order in Philadelphia.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, July 22, 1776.

A letter of the 20th, from the convention of New-Jersey, and one of the 19th, from Ephraim Anderson, and a petition from Levy Allen, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, received and read on Saturday last, be referred to the board of war.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee respecting an exchange of prisoners; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commander in chief in each department be empowered to negotiate an exchange of prisoners in the following manner: one continental officer for one of the enemy of equal rank, either in the land or sea service, soldier for soldier, sailor for sailor, and one citizen for another citizen:

That each state hath a right to make any exchange they think proper for prisoners taken from them or by them.

*Resolved*, That the several commanders in chief, in each department, be directed to exchange any officer in the British service, now a prisoner in any of these states, of or under the rank of colonel, for colonel Eathan Allen.

*Resolved*, That the persons taken prisoners with colonel Eathan Allen, be put upon the same footing as those in the continental service, and exchanged accordingly, as opportunity presents.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on ways and means; and, after debate, the same was disagreed to.

The committee appointed to contract with Messrs. Hughes for one thousand tons of cannon, for the use of the United States, reported, that they have executed the contract, in which is a covenant to advance the said Messrs. Hughes 8000 dollars.

*Resolved*, That an order for 8000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Daniel and Samuel Hughes; they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the board of treasury be directed to make immediate preparation for striking a farther sum of five millions of dollars in bills of credit.

*Resolved*, That captain Joy have liberty to employ eight of the prisoners in the casting of cannon.

The board of treasury reported, that they have examined the account of the committee of Lancaster for preserving the peace of the borough, keeping the prisoners in order, and for the protection of the magazines, and find, that there is due, for the pay of the guard, as follows:

- 39 days to captains, at 26 2-3 dollars per month, 34 60-90ths dollars:
- 76 days to lieutenants, at 18 dollars per month, 45 54-90ths dollars:
- 27 days to ensigns, at 13 1-3 dollars per month, 12 dollars:
- 143 days to serjeants, at 8 dollars per month, 38 12-90ths dollars.
- 421 days to corporals, fives and drums, at 7 1-3 dollars per month, 102 60-90ths dollars:

1470 days to privates, at 6 2-3 dollars per month, 326 60-90ths dollars; the whole amounting to 559 66-90ths dollars:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made some progress in the matter to them referred; but, not having come to a conclusion, desire leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the articles of confederation.

The marine committee having recommended the following gentlemen for officers of the *Rawleigh*, namely,

Peter Shores, John Wheelwright, Josiah Shackford, lieutenants; George Jerry Osborne, captain of marines; Stephen Meads, first-lieutenant; Nathaniel Thwing, second-lieutenant;

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted them accordingly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, July 23, 1776.**

Sundry letters were received, and read, viz.

Two from general Washington of the 21st and 22d, with three papers enclosed in the latter:

One of the 16th from governor Cooke:

Two from brigadier-general Mercer, of the 20th and 22d, with two papers enclosed in the latter.

*Resolved*, That the letters from general Washington and brigadier-general Mercer, be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the report of the committee on the cartel entered into between brigadier-general Arnold and captain Foster, and the resolutions passed thereon, be published.

*Resolved*, That twenty dollars be advanced to Isaac Manes, a wounded soldier of captain Cheeseman's company, and that he be sent to the general hospital.

The board of war reported, that they have heard and considered the matters alleged against the arrangement made in the regiment ordered to be raised under colonel Dubois, and are of opinion, that no good purpose would be answered by making any alteration therein; and although many worthy officers who served in Canada are yet unemployed, the board can only lament that they are not in the service, but hope something will, in future, turn up to enable Congress to place them in stations equal to their merit:

The same being again read, was agreed to.

On the remainder of the report from the board of war, the Congress came to the following resolutions:

That general Washington be informed that Congress have such an entire confidence in his judgment, that they will give him no particular directions about the disposition of the troops, but desire that he will dispose of those at New-York, the flying-camp and Ticonderoga, as to him shall seem most conducive to the public good:

That the Congress approve of general Washington's having lent to the convention of New-York, the sum of money mentioned in his letter of the 19th instant:

That Monsieur St. Martin be appointed an engineer, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and that he be directed to repair to New-York, and put himself under the command of general Washington.

*Resolved*, That Dr. David Griffith be appointed to the stations of chaplain and surgeon in the third Virginia battalion, he being a person of uncommon merit, and there being very few surgeons of abilities who will enter the army in that state; this appointment not to be drawn into precedent:

That Mr. Griffith draw pay in both these capacities, for the time he has served in the regiment.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Dennis Lefferty, for 26 weeks board, the sum of 52 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlack:

To William White, for boarding general Lee's guard, the sum of 40 60-90 dollars:

To George Haas, for carrying money to New-York, the sum of 26 60-90 dollars :

To William Bradford, for the expense of a guard escorting money to New-York, the sum of 88 57-90 dollars :

To Rachel Evans, for boarding a sick soldier, the sum of 3 dollars :

To Robert Owen, junior, for provisions furnished several rifle companies, 64 86-90 dollars :

To Peter Grosels, for provisions to several rifle companies, the sum of 61 46-90 dollars, and that this ought to be paid to Robert Owen, jun.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That, in order to hasten the march of the troops, the several committees of Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks, and Northampton counties, in Pennsylvania, be empowered to muster the troops that shall march from their respective counties, and to draw for one month's pay on Mr. James Mense, and that they certify the muster-rolls, and send to the pay-master the receipts for the moneys that shall be so advanced.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the board of treasury, in the room of one absent :

The member chosen, Mr. G. Clymer.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the articles of confederation ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made farther progress in the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the articles of confederation.

A petition from a number of inhabitants of Chester county, in Pennsylvania, was presented to Congress and read, praying that John Griffith, a soldier in the continental army, an experienced artificer in making and dressing fuller's shears, may be released from the army, and ordered to return home to follow his trade :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

A petition from sundry Canadians was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Canada committee.

The marine committee having recommended Richard Palmes to be captain of marines,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, July 24, 1776.

A letter from lieutenant-colonel William Allen was laid before Congress, and read, requesting leave to resign his commission :

*Resolved*, That leave be granted.

The marine committee having recommended Benjamin Thompson to be a lieutenant of marines in captain Palmes's company,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to revise the journals, be empowered to employ a proper person to make an index thereto.

The board of treasury reported, that the pay of brigadier-general Wooster, commencing the 22d day of June, 1775, and calculated to the 22d day of July, 1776, being thirteen months, at 125 dollars per month, amounts 1625 dollars ; out of which is to be deducted 173 dollars and 24-72 parts of a dollar, paid him by John Winstow, esq. the pay-master ; the residue due to the general is 1451 dollars and 48-72 parts of a dollar :

**Resolved**, That the same be paid.

**Resolved**, That the sum of 100 dollars be advanced to captain Robert Johnson, to be deducted out of his pay on the settlement of his account.

A petition from George Kills was presented to Congress and read :

**Resolved**, That it be referred to the board of war.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee appointed to prepare a resolution for confiscating the property of the subjects of Great-Britain ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That all the resolutions of this Congress, passed on the 23d day of March last, and on the 3d day of April last, relating to ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel and furniture, and all goods, wares and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of Great-Britain, taken on high seas, or between high and low water mark, be extended to all ships and other vessels, their tackle, apparel and furniture, and to all goods, wares and merchandises, belonging to any subject or subjects of the king of Great-Britain, except the inhabitants of the Bermudas, and Providence or Bahama islands. The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the regiment of rangers, now in the pay of the state of South-Carolina, be placed upon continental establishment, and that it consist of a lieutenant-colonel commandant, a major, 10 captains, 20 lieutenants, a surgeon, a pay-master, 20 serjeants and 500 privates :

That the pay of the lieutenant-colonel commandant of rangers, be the same as that of a colonel of foot ; the major's pay, that of a lieutenant-colonel ; the captain's, that of a major ; the lieutenant's that of a captain ; and the serjeant's that of an ensign of foot of the continental forces : That the surgeon be allowed 33 dollars and 1-3d a month ; the pay-master 26 dollars and 2-3ds ; and the privates 12½ dollars per month, to provide themselves with horses, arms, and provisions, for themselves and horses :

That the said rangers be liable to act on horseback, or foot, as occasion may require :

That the like number of rangers be raised in the state of Georgia, and put upon continental establishment :

That these be entitled to the same pay, and subject to the same duties, as the South-Carolina rangers :

That the rangers, raised in the state of South-Carolina, be subject to the articles formed by the convention of that state, for the government of the forces raised therein.

**Resolved**, That colonel Knox's plan for raising another battalion of artillery, be approved, and carried into execution, as soon as possible :

That general Washington be desired to recommend proper officers to compose this corps.

**Resolved**, That general Washington be empowered to agree to the exchange of governor Skene for Mr. James Lovell :

That general Washington be authorized to take into continental pay, the sum proposed by Mr. Lary, upon the terms by him mentioned.

On motion, **Resolved**, That the report of the committee on gold and silver coins be recommitted :

That Mr. Jefferson be added to that committee.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration, and report their opinion, on the proposal made by the president of South-Carolina, and communicated to the house by a delegate of that state, respecting general Lee :

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Hall.

The Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the articles of confederation ; and, after some

time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made farther progress in the matter to them referred; but, not having finished, desire leave to sit again:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the articles of confederation.

A letter from general Washington, of the 23d, with sundry papers enclosed, among which was a letter from Mr. Fraesh to lord Sterling; also,

A letter from the council of safety of North-Carolina, being received and read,

*Resolved*, That the letter from Mr. Fraesh, to lord Sterling, be referred to the committee appointed to contract for casting cannon;

That the general's letter, with the other papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, July 25, 1776.

*Resolved*, That two months' pay be advanced to Mons. Jaque Antoine de Franchessin; he to be accountable.

A memorial of Samuel Holden Parsons, of Lyme, in Connecticut, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Sherman.

A memorial from sundry officers who served in Canada, and are now unemployed, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration, the articles of confederation; after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have made farther progress in the consideration of the articles of confederation; but, not having gone through, desired leave to sit again.

A letter of the 23d, from general Washington, enclosing a letter from governor Trumbull, to the general; also,

A letter from governor Trumbull, of the 19th, with sundry depositions; and, One of the 16th, from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington be referred to the board of war.

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To Francis Gurney, for expenses of himself and others, escorting money to Cambridge, in February last, the sum of 162 dollars and 84-90ths, over and beside the monies advanced to him:

To Henry Wisner, esq. for the expenses of an express paid by him, the sum of 20 dollars:

To Thomas Dewees, for boarding prisoners of state, 437 dollars and 68-90ths:

To David Lennox, for expenses in going after deserters, the sum of 31 dollars and 86-90ths, to be paid to David Sproat:

To William Trickett, for stationary, the sum of 43 dollars and 76-90ths.

To Philip Nolan, for ferriages of general Lee's guards, 4 dollars and 12-90ths:

To Elizabeth Slaving, for boarding and nursing a sick soldier, 4 dollars:

To J. Piling, for chairs for the war-office, the sum of 12 dollars:

To John Kerling, for provisions for general Lee's guards, 4 dollars and 54-90ths.

To Isaac Cooper, for his attendance as a guard over powder, the sum of 11 dollars.

To Furman and Hunt, for necessaries furnished the prisoners at Trenton, the sum of 47 dollars and 87-90ths:

John Bates, for camp-kettles, the sum of 98 dollars and 60-90ths :  
 Elijah Bennet, post-rider, in the service of the United States, from Hartford in Connecticut, to various places, the sum of 1331 dollars and 66-90ths, deducting 819 dollars and 86-90ths, which he has received from the colony of Connecticut, the balance being 511 dollars and 70-90ths :  
 Michael Philips, employed by brigadier-general Wooster in making dry repairs in the citadel and hospital in Montreal, carting, &c. 397 dollars and 75-90ths, deducting the sum of 96 dollars and 7-90ths, which he received from major Nicholson, the balance being 301 dollars and 68-90ths :  
 James Budden, for the expense of a detachment of the troop of light-horse escorting 300,000 dollars to New-York, the sum of 28 dollars :  
*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.  
*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration, the articles of confederation.  
 Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *July 26, 1776.*

Congress proceeded to the election of three commissioners to liquidate and settle the accounts in the northern department; and, the ballots being taken, Mr. James Milligan, Mr. John Carter, and Mr. Wells, were elected.  
 The committee on the treasury laid before Congress the account of Messrs. E. and Haywood, with the balance due to them :  
*Ordered*, To lie on the table.  
*Resolved*, That the substance of the conference between general Washington and adjutant-general Patterson, which was transmitted to Congress by general Washington, be published.  
 Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee had made farther progress; but, not having concluded, desire leave to sit again.  
*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the articles of confederation.  
*Resolved*, That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Dr. W. Shippen; he to be accountable.  
 The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, *July 29, 1776.*

undry letters were laid before Congress, and read, viz.  
 Three from general Washington of the 22d, 25th and 27th ;  
 One from general Schuyler, of the 17th, and one from general Gates, of the 16th ;  
 One of the 25th, from J. Reed, adjutant-general; and one from brigadier-general Mercer, of the 26th :  
 One of the 20th, from governor Trumbull :  
 One of the 25th, from the convention of New-Jersey, and one from the Council of Massachusetts-Bay :  
 One from Mons. Kirmovan, engineer, with a plan and draughts; and one, in Latin, without signature :  
 Also two petitions, one from George Nicholson, and one from James Livingston.  
*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to appoint another aid-camp:

That the letters from general Washington, general Schuyler, and general Gates, and the letter from Mons. Kirmovan, be referred to the board of war.

That the letter from the convention of New-Jersey be referred to the committee on the ways and means of augmenting the flying-camp; and, that Mr. Clark be added to the said committee :

That the letter from the adjutant-general be referred to the committee appointed to revise the articles of war :

That the petition of James Nicholson be referred to the commissioners who went to Canada :

That the petition from George Nicholson be referred to the committee on Canada affairs :

That the Latin letter be referred to the marine committee.

*Resolved*, That an order for 47 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Josiah Fissenden, in full for service, expenses, and horse-hire.

A letter, of the 20th, from the council of Virginia, was received and read.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to order the regiment, lately raised in Connecticut, under the command of colonel Ward, whenever he shall think the service requires it:

That Mons. Jean Artur de Virmonet, who appears to be a young gentleman of merit, and has held a lieutenant's commission in the service of France, be appointed a brevet captain; and that Mons. Marie Fidel Dorre be sent as a volunteer, to be employed by general Washington as he shall think proper:

That Mons. Christopher Pelliser, who has suffered considerably by warmly espousing and taking an active part in the cause of America, in Canada, be appointed an engineer in the service of the United States, with the pay of 60 dollars a month, and rank of lieutenant-colonel; and that he be directed to repair to New York:

That the returns of colonel Elmore's regiment, made into the war-office by brigadier-general Wooster, be transmitted to general Washington, with blank commissions for the officers: And that general Washington be directed to order the said regiment to join him, and that he fill up the said commissions, with the names of such officers as appear with their respective companies in the said regiment.

That John Brown be commissioned as lieutenant-colonel, and that Robert Cockran, now acting as eldest captain in the said regiment, be commissioned as major of the same, in the room of major J. Curtis, deceased.

*Resolved*, That a lieutenant-colonel be appointed for the second Pennsylvania battalion, in the room of W. Allen, who has resigned:

The ballots being taken, Joseph Wood, esq. was elected.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their consideration, the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee have made farther progress in the articles of confederation; but, not having finished, desire leave to sit again.

A petition from Samuel Morris was presented to Congress, and read.

The committee on spies brought in a farther report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the gaoler be directed to allow the prisoners, from North-Carolina, the use and benefit of the yard, under the inspection of the guard, provided it may be done with safety.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the articles of confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, July 30, 1776.**

letter of the 28th, from brigadier-general Mercer, was laid before Congress, and read, requesting six light-horse may be sent to him; Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the president write to S. Morris, esq. captain of the light-horse, and request him to send six of his company to brigadier-general Mercer. Congress being informed, by a letter from the president of South-Carolina, that the Cherokees have commenced hostilities against that state, and that he ordered a body of men to march against them, and has applied for assistance to the neighboring states of North-Carolina and Virginia,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the states of Virginia, North-Carolina, Georgia, to afford all necessary assistance to the state of South-Carolina, co-operate, with that state, in prosecuting the war against the Indians with the utmost vigor;

That the president write to the governor and council of Virginia, the council of safety of North-Carolina, and the president of Georgia, relative to these subjects.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the state of North-Carolina, and report thereon to Congress:

The members chosen, Mr. Harrison, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Lynch.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, wherein they represent their opinion,

That the short enlistments of the continental troops, in Canada, have been a great cause of the miscarriages there, by rendering unstable the number of men engaged in military enterprizes, by making them disorderly and disobedient to their officers, and by precipitating the commanding officers into measures, which their prudence might have postponed, could they have relied on longer continuance of their troops in service:

That the want of hard money has been one other great source of the miscarriages in Canada, rendering the supplies of necessaries difficult and precious, the establishment of proper magazines absolutely impracticable, and the pay of the troops of little use to them:

That a still greater, and more fatal, source of misfortunes has been, the prevalence of the small pox in that army; a great proportion whereof has thereby been usually kept unfit for duty."

With this Congress concurred.

In the farther consideration of the report, Congress came to the following resolutions:

That colonel Bedel be tried by a court-martial for leaving his command at the Cedars, and for declining to return to the same with major Sherburne's reinforcement:

That major Butterfield be tried by a court-martial for surrendering to the enemy the post at the Cedars, and also such other officers as were with him, who consented to that surrender.

The said committee having farther reported, that, in the course of their enquiries, they had reason to believe, that general Prescott's baggage was plundered by some licentious persons, in violation of the faith of the capitulation; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be desired to make strict enquiry into the matter, that the person guilty thereof may receive due punishment, and ample reparation be made to general Prescott.

That colonel Bedel, doctor Fay, and lieutenant House, be subjected to this enquiry.

*Resolved*, That so much of the petitions of col. Easton and major Brown, as relate to the charges against them, of having been concerned in plundering the officers' baggage, taken at Sorel, be submitted to a court of enquiry, is

reasonable, and that general Schuyler be desired to order courts of enquiry on them as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That general Montgomery's promise to give to the troops concerned in taking the vessels on the Sorel, "all the public stores, except ammunition and provisions, on board thereof," be confirmed; and that general Schuyler be directed to cause an enquiry to be made into the particulars and value of the said public stores, (ammunition and provision excepted) and to certify the same to Congress, with the names of the officers and soldiers entitled thereto:

That so much of major Brown's petition, as prays, that an allowance be made to him for extraordinary services, be referred to general Schuyler, who is desired to certify to Congress, whether any and what reward may, with justice, be demanded by him:

That major Brown's accounts be settled by the commissioners appointed to adjust accounts in the northern department.

*Resolved*, That the committee be discharged from proceeding on so much of the petition of colonel Easton, as prays a continuance of his rank and pay, and so much of major Brown's petition, as prays an examination into his rank and pay; and that they be referred to the board of war.

That general Schuyler be desired to enquire into the conduct of colonel Hazen, who is charged with having beaten and ill-treated Francois Cuilot de la Rose, a continental captain of Canadian militia, and also to have ill-treated Charles Robert de la Fontaine, a Canadian, at Chambly, and put such conduct into a proper channel for trial and punishment:

That it be recommended to general Schuyler, whenever the pay of officers or soldiers is stopped, on account of any charge against them, to have such charge determined by trial as speedily as possible, that there may be no delay of justice.

*Resolved*, That general Wooster acted properly in stopping the goods of Bernard and Wadden, who were carrying the same, without permission, to the Indians in the upper country.

*Resolved*, That the committee have leave to sit again; and that they be instructed to enquire in what manner the goods of Bernard and Wadden were disposed of.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply the three rifle companies, now in town from Lancaster, with 11lb. of powder and 44 lb of lead.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master-general.

That 60,000 dollars be sent to R. Dallam, deputy pay-master-general, for the use of the flying-camp.

Congress proceeded to the election of a clerk, or assistant, to the auditor-general; when,

William Govet was elected.

*Resolved*, That William Govet be allowed the salary of 533 dollars and 1-3d per annum.

*Resolved*; That all public claims and accounts, that are, at this time, unsettled, be referred to the committee of treasury, and that the committee of claims be discharged from proceeding further upon any claims or accounts; and that all the books and papers in the hands of the committee of claims, be delivered to the auditor-general.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the resolution of the 17th of January last, allowing to officers 1 dollar and 1-3d for every man they enlist, be extended to officers who enlist for the new army for three years:

That gen. Mercer's letter, relative to the building of boats, be referred to general Washington, with direction to give such orders therein as he shall judge

necessary ; and that he be desired to avail himself of the shipwrights and other artifices now in the flying-camp :

That general Mercer be allowed a secretary while he has a separate command :

That a number of 4 and 6 pounders, not exceeding ten of each, be immediately sent to general Mercer, to be mounted on the works he is now erecting ; and that the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to forward them to Amboy, in New-Jersey :

That Congress approve of general Schuyler's intention to publish such parts of the treaty with the Six Nations, as may have a tendency to dispel the apprehensions of the frontier inhabitants :

That the commissioners for Indian affairs, in the middle department, be instructed to thank Cayashuta, in the name of the great council-fire, for his friendly conduct at Niagara, communicated by Peter Richman (whose Indian name is Queda) and to inform him, that it would be very agreeable to Congress to receive a visit from him.

A letter of the 29th, from general Washington, and one from the council of Massachusetts-Bay ; also a letter of the 23d from governor Cooke, with sundry papers enclosed, being received, were read :

*Resolved*, That the two first be referred to the board of war.

The board of war laid before Congress a letter received from general Washington :

*Ordered*, That they return an answer.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee, not having yet finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, July 31, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. Mease ; he to be accountable :

That Mr. J. Mease be directed to pay John Pollock 2666 dollars and two-thirds, and that the same be charged to the account of the committee of inspection of Cumberland, who are to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the medical committee be directed to provide, and send forward, such a quantity of medicines as may be necessary for the hospital in the northern army :

That the said committee be directed to procure and forward such a quantity of medicines as may be necessary for the hospital in the southern department.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That five tons of musket-powder be sent immediately to general Washington at New-York :

That the commissary-general be directed to furnish with rations, and the deputy pay-master general, in the state of Massachusetts-Bay, be ordered to pay, any militia, which the general assembly of that state shall think proper to call in, to replace the continental troops ordered from thence.

The committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, brought in a farther report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the conduct of colonel Nicholson, who commanded the post at Point-Levi, and who, after the determination of the council of war to retire from Quebec, is said to have deserted his said command, and left the party to shift for themselves, be submitted to a court of enquiry :

That the committee be discharged from so much of colonel Easton's petition, as prays a settlement of his accounts, and that the same be referred to the board of treasury.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the state of North-Carolina, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That four tons of gun-powder and six four pounders, or such others as can be procured, of the weight proper for field-pieces, be immediately sent to North-Carolina:

That the delegates of that state employ some proper person, as a commissary, to purchase, in this city, or the neighborhood thereof, clothing for the troops raised in that state for the continental service:

That the three independent companies of rangers, in that state, be taken upon the continental pay and establishment, and that their pay and appointment be as already resolved by the convention of that state, and that they rank as the rangers raised in South-Carolina and Georgia.

*Resolved*, That an order for 266 2-3 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of colonel James Easton; to be accounted for by him on the final settlement of his accounts:

That two months' pay be advanced to Monsieur St. Martin; he to be accountable.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *August 1*, 1776.

A letter of the 30th of July from brigadier-general Mercer, and one of the same date, from brigadier-general Roberdeau, and sundry others, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the two first be referred to the board of war.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee have made farther progress, but, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

A letter of the 30th of July, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed; also, one from general Schuyler, of the 20th, and one from colonel Dubois, of the 17th, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

The board of war reported the draught of a letter to general Washington, in answer to his directed to them; and the same being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That it be transcribed, signed by the president, and forwarded.

The said board brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That colonel John Brown be allowed the rank and pay of lieutenant-colonel in the continental army, from the 20th day of November last to this time:

That James Easton is entitled to the rank of a colonel in the continental army, from the first day of July, 1775, and to the pay of a colonel from that day until he shall be discharged, which ought to be done as soon as a court of enquiry shall report in his favor, or a court-martial shall determine upon his con-

and their sentence is carried into execution ; there being no vacancy to which he can be appointed. But, should he be honorably acquitted, his past services will recommend him to the confidence of Congress for future employment.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2,666 2-3 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Ludwick Karcher, for victualling the militia passing through Philadelphia to the flying-camp ; he to be accountable. He journeyed to nine o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, August 2, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That two months' pay be advanced to Monsieur Pellisier ; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee and marine committee be discharged from fitting out vessels with cargoes to Bermudas.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; and upon,

*Resolved*, That 200,000 dollars be sent to Jonathan Trumbull, esq. deputy pay-master general in the northern department :

That gen. Washington be instructed to employ in the service of the states, any of the Stockbridge Indians as he shall judge proper :

That one hundred old arms, belonging to Congress, be delivered to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to be repaired at the continental expense, and sent into the hands of the soldiers destined for the flying-camp ; the said council to be accountable :

That the pay-master general, and the several deputy pay-masters general, be directed to make weekly returns to Congress of the state of the military accounts under their direction :

That Jonathan Trumbull, esq. deputy pay-master general in the northern department be directed to transmit to Congress, as soon as possible, an account of all moneys which have passed through his hands since his appointment to that office :

That the commissary-general, and deputy commissaries in the several departments, be directed to transmit to Congress, weekly, an account of the sums of money they may respectively receive from the pay-masters :

That the quarter-master general, and deputy quarter-masters general, in the several departments, be directed to transmit, weekly, to Congress, an account of moneys they respectively receive from the pay-master general, or deputy pay-master general :

That the commissary-general, quarter-master general, deputy commissaries, and deputy quarter-masters general, be directed to make monthly returns, at the end of the stores under their direction, and the distribution of them :

That the commanding officer in each department be directed to make returns, once a month, to Congress, of the draughts made by him upon the pay-master, in his department.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Walton be appointed a member of the marine committee, in the room of Mr. Gwinnett, who is absent.

*Resolved*, That 100 dollars be advanced to Thaddeus Sturges, to be accounted for by him, and deducted out of his pay on the settlement of his accounts ; that the board of treasury be discharged from proceeding on his accounts, and that they be referred for settlement to the commissioners appointed to settle accounts in the northern department.

The marine committee, to whom it was referred to enquire into the conduct of commodore Hopkins, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on Monday next. Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair.

ed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee, not having finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Benjamin Thompson, for 131 days service, viz. from the 1st of December to the last of May inclusive, as clerk of the hospital at Montreal, at the rate of 2-3ds of a dollar per day, 122 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *August 3, 1776.*

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Thomas Whitbeck, for carrying money from Philadelphia to Ticonderoga, in October last, the sum of 75 1-4 dollars :

To Samuel Johnson, for 209 meals of victuals, 20 dollars and 81-90ths.

To George Hoffnagle, 1 dollar and 45-90ths.

To Michael Staddleman, for 708 meals of victuals, 70 dollars and 72-90ths.

To Richard Chiney, for 540 meals furnished the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 54 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee on the miscarriages in Canada, brought in a farther report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on Monday next.

A letter from Neil M'Clean was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, *August 5, 1776.*

Two letters from general Washington, of the 31st of July and 2d of August; one from the council of Virginia, of the 27th of July, with copies of sundry letters from North-Carolina and South-Carolina, enclosed; one from E. Anderson, of the 31st of July; and sundry resolutions, passed by the convention of Pennsylvania, were laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commanders of all ships of war and armed vessels in the service of these states, or any of them, and all letters of marque and privateers, be permitted to inlist into service on board the said ships and vessels, any seamen who may be taken on board any of the ships or vessels of our enemies, and that no such seamen be entitled to receive the wages due to them out of the said prizes, but such as will so inlist, and that all other seamen, so taken, be held as prisoners of war, and exchanged for others taken by the enemy, whether on board of vessels of war or merchantmen, as there may be opportunity:

That lieutenant-colonel Rufus Putnam be appointed an engineer, with the rank of colonel, and pay of 60 dollars a month.

A petition from Esek Hopkins, commander in chief of the continental fleet, was presented to Congress, and read; setting forth, that "he has been informed that certain complaints, interrogatories and report, charging him with sundry crimes and misdemeanors, had been exhibited to the honorable Congress; the purport of which complaints, &c. he is ignorant of; and praying that he may be furnished with copies thereof, and of all other proceedings against him, which are now before this honorable body; and that time may be allowed him

to prepare for, and a day assigned for, his being heard before Congress in his own defence."

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and that Friday next be appointed for hearing commodore Hopkins.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to order the ships and armed vessels, belonging to the continent, out on such cruizes as they shall think proper.

*Resolved*, That Monday next be assigned for hearing and determining the appeal against the verdict and sentence passed on the schooner Thistle.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to the Delaware battalion, as many of the arms, lately imported, as will be necessary to arm them completely :

That they deliver to the council of safety of Delaware government, 193 of the said arms, in lieu of so many had from them ;

That the remainder of the said arms be delivered to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, who are to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Delaware battalion, when armed, be ordered to New-Jersey, subject to the farther orders and directions of the general.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To J. Symes, a prisoner of the royal Highland emigrants, 28 dollars, for 14 weeks' allowance, from the 24th of April to the 30th of July.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Ordered*, That the board of war furnish the committee of treasury with the names of the British officers and other prisoners, who are entitled to the allowance made by Congress of two dollars a week, with the times of their captivity, and the places where they are quartered.

*Resolved*, That the pay of an assistant clerk to the board of war, be 266 2-3 dollars a year.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Francis Lewis, esq. and that the same be charged to the account of the paymaster general ; it being for so much received by him, by the order of Mr. Lewis.

Congress took into consideration the report on Messrs. Price and Haywood's accounts ; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the said accounts be re-committed, and that the commissioners to Canada be desired to attend the board of treasury at the examination of the said accounts.

*Resolved*, That an order for 53 dollars and 1-3d, be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of Monsieur Artur Vermonit, it being two months' advance, for which he is to be accountable.

A petition from Lewis De Linkensdorff, was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the causes of the miscarriages in Canada ; and, after debate,

*Resolved*, That it be re-committed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, August 6, 1776.

A letter, of the 5th, from general Washington, enclosing copies of letters between him and general Howe, respecting the exchange of prisoners, and sundry other letters and papers ; also, one from brigadier-general Mercer, of the 4th, were laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the medical committee be directed to supply the director-general of the hospital with such medicines as he may want.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to the delegates of North-Carolina, half a ton of powder, for the use of the frontier inhabitants of that state.

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler be directed to apply to general Burgoyne, and propose a general exchange of prisoners on the terms agreed to by Congress; and, particularly, the delivering brigadier-general Prescott, in possession of the United States, in lieu of brigadier-general Thompson, in the possession of the enemy.

A letter from the convention of New-Jersey to their delegates, was laid before Congress and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the convention of the state of New-Jersey be requested to make such provision for keeping open the communication between that state and New-York, by way of the ferries over the rivers Passaick and Hackensack, as to them shall appear to be most effectual, and that Congress will reimburse the expenses of such service to the state of New Jersey:

That it be recommended, in the most earnest manner, to the convention of New-Jersey, to order their militia immediately to march and join brigadier-general Mercer.

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, be directed to enquire, and inform Congress, whether it will be most for the public good, that the troops raised, and to be raised, for the garrisons on the Ohio and its waters, should be supplied with provisions by contract or by a commissary: That if a commissary be thought necessary, they recommend some proper person for that office to Congress, in the mean time, take such measures as they think best for victualling the said troops.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee appointed to enquire into, and remedy, the defects of the powder made at the mills:

The member chosen, Mr. Rush.

Mr. G. Clymer, one of the joint treasurers, being appointed a delegate to Congress, by the convention of Pennsylvania,

*Resolved*, That, for the future, there be only one continental treasurer.

*Resolved*, That an additional sum of 300 dollars be given to each of the continental treasurers, on account of their extraordinary trouble, and faithful service, during the last year.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee, not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to stop Mr. Wilmore from proceeding to New-York.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration, the articles of confederation.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, August 7, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an order for 5000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers in favor of the committee of Lancaster, for the purpose of carrying into execution the resolution of Congress, respecting the prisoners, the said committee to be accountable:

That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer in favor of James Mease, for the use of the militia marching to New-Jersey; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That James Brisben, who is employed in the post-office, be excused from military duty.

A letter from captain N. Biddle to the marine committee, was laid before Congress, and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to propose an exchange of lieutenant Josiah, for a lieutenant of the navy of Great-Britain, and that the general remonstrate to lord Howe on the cruel treatment lieutenant Josiah has met with, of which the Congress have received undoubted information.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Rush be added to the medical committee.

A memorial from George Measam was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The committee appointed to revise the articles of war, brought in their report:

The board of war reported, that there is due,

To Messrs. Giasson, Hertel and de la Magdelaine, Canadian prisoners, at Bristol, for their board and lodging, from the 15th of November to the 31st July last, being 37 weeks, each at 2 dollars a week, 222 dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Green, their assignee :

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration, the articles of confederation ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee, not having yet finished, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, August 8, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 700 dollars be paid to Jonathan Meredith, in full of Ephraim Blaine's draught in his favor, for shoes purchased from him for the use of the continental army ; and that the same be charged to the account of the said Ephraim Blaine.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 60,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of New-Hampshire, for the use of that state, which is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to take proper measures for providing quarters for the troops passing through Philadelphia to the flying-camp, during their continuance in this city.

*Resolved*, That the colonel, or commanding officer of the Delaware battalion, and the colonels, or commanding officers of the several battalions of militia, now in Philadelphia, be ordered instantly to march to Amboy in New-Jersey ; and that such of the militia as want arms, be left under a proper officer, till they can be provided therewith, and then marched without any farther delay :

That the board of war be directed to see this resolution carried into immediate execution.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to take into immediate consideration, the state of the army in the northern department, and our naval force on the lakes ; and that Mr. Chase be directed to attend the said board, and give them all the information in his power ; and that Mr. Williams be desired to furnish the said board with an extract of the letter he has received from governor Trumbull, relative to the said army and naval force ; and that the said board report thereon as soon as possible.

Two letters from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed ; one from general Schuyler, dated at the German-Flats, August the 1st ; one of the 29th of July, from general Gates, with copies of two letters enclosed, were received and read.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to general Lee, to inform him of the intelligence received, that the troops from Charleston are arrived at New-York ; and to direct him, in case the British troops have left the southern colonies, to repair, with all possible expedition, to Philadelphia, and there wait the orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing four major-generals and six brigadier-generals.

*Resolved*, That the post-riders be exempted from military duty.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to supply colonel Galbreath with 9 lbs. of powder, and 27 lbs. of lead, for the use of three companies of his battalion.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To George Kennedy, for three rifles purchased in Frederick county, Virginia, for the use of captain Morgan's company of riflemen, and to be charged to the said company, the sum of 40 dollars :

To William Webb, for services in, and articles purchased for, the use of the treasury office, 137 54-90 dollars ; to be charged to the account of contingent expenses :

To captain Thomas Hazlet, for subsistence of 13 men of his company, on their march from Chester county to New-Jersey, 9 82-90 dollars :

To captain Benjamin Wallace, for subsistence of his company, on their march from Chester county to New-Jersey, 32 20-90 dollars :

To captain Matthew Boyd for subsistence of 58 men of his company, in colonel Moore's battalion, on their march from Chester county, to New-Jersey, 27 42-90 dollars :

To Tobias Rudolph, for the hire of two horses and a chair, by captain Alexander Graydon, to conduct money to Ticonderoga, and for one of the said horses which was lost at Albany, 125 54-90 dollars :

To Mr. Smith, at the city-tavern, for the expense of a guard at his house, over prisoners of war brought from Burlington, 16 27-90 dollars :

To John Tomkins, for the subsistence of captains Crowlle's, Heister's, and Ludwigg's companies of militia, on their march to New-Jersey, 21 36-90 dollars :

To captain James M'Candless, for subsistence and ferriages of his company of the 4th battalion of York county militia, on their march to New-Jersey, 41 78-90 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer in favor of the delegates of Georgia, for the use of the continental forces in that state ; the said delegates to be accountable.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation ; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee have made farther progress in the matter referred to them ; but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the articles of confederation.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, August 9, 1776.

Congress having proceeded to the election of a regimental pay-master for the Delaware battalion,

John Yates, esq. was elected.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to devise a plan for encouraging the Hessians, and other foreigners, employed by the king of Great-Britain, and sent to America for the purpose of subjugating these states, to quit that iniquitous service :

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Stockton.

The board of war brought in a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to the order of the board of war, such articles in their possession, belonging to the continent, as, in the opinion of the said board of war, are necessary for the Delaware battalion :

That the said committee be directed to send to gen. Washington 30,000 flints.  
A petition from William Bell & Co. was presented to Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the committee on governor Trumbull's letter.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Mease be directed to supply the captains, now in Philadelphia, belonging to colonel Hand's battalion, with such sums of money as will be sufficient to pay the bounty voted to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who enlist for three years.

The delegates of Pennsylvania and Maryland, to whom the petition of Lewis de Linkensdorf was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Lewis de Linkensdorf be appointed adjutant to the German battalion, ordered to be raised for the continental service.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress proceeded to the election of four major-generals and six brigadier-generals, when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz.

William Heath, Joseph Spencer, John Sullivan, and Nathaniel Green, esqrs. major-generals ; James Read, John Nixon, Arthur St. Clair, Alexander M' Dougal, Samuel Holden Parsons, and James Clinton, esqrs. brigadier-generals.

*Resolved*, That the hearing commodore Hopkins be postponed to Monday next, at 11 o'clock, and that captain Jones be directed to attend at the same time.

*Resolved*, That 10,000 dollars be advanced to colonel John Hazlet for the use of his battalion, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That William Brown, master-carpenter, who is come from the camp on furlow, be ordered not to return, his service being necessary at the yard.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, August 10, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Isaac Cooper, ship-joiner, be ordered not to go to New-Jersey ; his service being wanted :

That William Whiting, a wounded soldier, be sent to the hospital of Pennsylvania, and supported at the expense of the United States ; and, in case he dies, that the expenses of his funeral be paid by the United States.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Jeremiah Dougan, in part payment of his account against the continent, \$19 dollars and 60-90ths, with which he is to be charged :

To Daniel Smith, for the weekly allowance of the following prisoners of war, viz. James Hughes, town major of Montreal, and captain Duncan Campbell, from the 19th January, to the 18th July last, 24 weeks, and 6 days, at 2 dollars a week, 99 dollars and 38-90ths :

Major Dunbar, major Stopford, lieut. Harrison, lieut. Shuttleworth, lieut. M'Donald, and capt. Algeo, from the 26th April to 12th July last, 11 weeks each, at 2 dollars a week, 132 dollars :

To colonel Jacob Stroud, for expenses of wagon-hire, in conducting Canadian prisoners, and part of the 26th regiment, from Walpeck, in New-Jersey, to Reading and Bristol in Pennsylvania, 219 dollars and 54-90ths, out of which 84 dollars 12-90ths, is a charge against the British troops, and 135 dollars and 42-90ths, for the expense of the Canadians :

To John Bates, for 140 camp-kettles delivered to colonel Matlack, 186 dollars and 60-90ths :

To Thomas Nevill for the materials and making travelling carriages, for the cannon sent to North-Carolina, 257 dollars and 25-90ths :

To William M'Gill, for expenses of the first Pennsylvania battalion on their march to Canada, which is to be charged to J. Shallus, quarter-master of the said battalion, 14 dollars 45-90ths :

To Joseph Haight, for the allowance to captain Francis Stuart and John

Leslie, of the 26th regiment, from the 26th April to 11th July, and to B. Huddleston, of the 7th regiment, from the 26th April to the 1st July, prisoners of war, 63 dollars :

To captain Joseph Spur, of colonel Moore's battalion, for the subsistence of his company of 28 men, on their march from Chester county to New-Jersey, the sum of 25 dollars and 18-90ths :

To lieutenant-colonel Joseph Park, for the subsistence of 6 men of colonel Moore's battalion, on their march from Chester county to New-Jersey, 1 dollar :

To Michael Gratz, for Indian goods provided by him in May and June last and delivered to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department, 653 dollars and 87-90ths :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee farther reported, that they have had under consideration the accounts of Messrs. Price and Haywood, which were re-committed to them and having re-examined the same, find a balance due to them, amounting to 59,962 dollars and 53-90ths, which they are of opinion ought to be paid in silver and gold :

*Ordered*, That the said sums be paid accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the board of treasury be directed to devise ways and means for paying Messrs. Price and Haywood, and report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That an order for 3000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer in favour of the delegates of Delaware government, for the purpose of paying a month's advance to the battalion of militia marching from that government to the flying-camp.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That commissions be made out, and sent to general Washington to be delivered to the several officers recommended in the list exhibited by the said board, to fill the vacancies mentioned in the said list, excepting those persons recommended to fill the vacancies occasioned by officers being in captivity, which ought not to be filled, but to be left open, until those officers shall be redeemed, and excepting the case of lieut. col. Tyler, who is to have a commission for colonel of the regiment lately commanded by col. Parsons, promoted, and that lieut. col. Durkee have a commission of colonel of the 20th regiment, and that major Prentice be made lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, in which he is now major; and major Knolton lieutenant-colonel of the 20th regiment.

The marine committee brought in a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee on the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, brought in a farther report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

*Resolved*, That John Hughes be supplied with necessary clothes, by the managers of the Pennsylvania hospital, at the expense of the United States.

*Resolved*, That William Tudor, judge-advocate general, have the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army of the United States; and that he be ordered immediately to repair to the discharge of his duty at New-York.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel Wilson, for the use of three companies of his battalion, now in Philadelphia, 11 lb. of powder, and 44 lb. of lead :

That the said committee be directed to deliver to the order of the marine committee, such quantity of arms and ammunition, as may be necessary for the use of the continental frigates.

The committee on Canadian petitioners, reported,

That the rev. Mr. Louis Lotbiniere was, on the 26th January last, appointed by general Arnold, chaplain to the regiment under the command of col. James Livingston, and acted in that capacity, until the retreat of the army from Canada.

nada, and was promised by gen. Arnold, the pay of £ 14 10 per month, including rations; and that there is now a balance of 124 dollars 84-90ths due, and that the same ought to be paid to him, and he continued a chaplain in the pay of the United States:

That Jean Fiscul ought to receive nine months' pay as a private, and a present of 20 dollars for particular service, the whole amounting to 80 dollars, and that he be permitted to enlist in the artillery at New-York:

That Pierre du Calvert ought to receive 106 dollars and 2-3ds, for 8 months' pay as an ensign, and a commission as a brevet lieutenant.

That Alexander du Clos ought to receive 33 dollars and 1-3d, for 5 months' pay as a private, and be discharged, with permission to enlist again in the service, at his election:

That Jean Baptist du Vidal ought to receive 56 dollars for seven months' pay as a serjeant, and be discharged, or continued in the service, at his election:

That Louis Russe ought to receive 32 dollars for his services as a nurse and attendant on the sick, and a present of 40 dollars on account of his humanity to them:

That Juet a Voir ought to receive a present of 10 dollars, and be discharged, or continued in service, at his election:

That La Junesse ought to receive a present of 40 dollars, and be discharged:

That John Hamptreneck ought to receive 186 dollars and 2-3ds, as deputy commissary, from the 15th of September to the 5th of February, and 164 dollars for his pay as a captain from the 5th of February to this day, being 6 months and 5 days; the whole amounting to 350 dollars and 60-90ths.

That John Diamond and Walker Moody ought to receive a present of 40 dollars each:

That Andrew Pepin ought to receive 33 dollars and 39-90ths, for 5 months' pay as a private, for his services as a volunteer, and be continued in pay as a lieutenant:

That all persons who have acted as volunteers in Canada, and retreated with the army, be referred to general Schuyler; and that he be directed to enquire into their service and characters, and to order them such rewards and wages as shall appear to have been merited:

That 300 dollars be advanced to colonel James Livingston, and his general account against Congress referred to the inspection and determination of general Schuyler.

*Resolved*, That the said report be agreed to.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, August 12, 1776.

A letter from general Washington of the 8th, with sundry papers enclosed, and one from general Mercer, with one enclosed to him from colonel Dickinson, were read:

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war:

That the letter from brigadier-general Mercer, with the enclosed letter from colonel Dickinson, be communicated to the convention of Pennsylvania.

Sundry resolutions, passed by the convention of New-York, were laid before Congress, and read.

A letter from a gentleman at Cape-Francois, in Hispaniola, dated July the 23d, was also read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the secret committee.

That the delegates of North-Carolina be empowered to send by water, at the risk of the continent, the military stores necessary for that state.

On application of one of the parties,

*Resolved*, That the hearing the appeal against the sentence passed on the schooner Thistle, be postponed to Monday, the 26th instant.

The council of safety of Pennsylvania having recommended Philip Schrauder, as a second lieutenant of the fifth company of Germans, to be raised in that state,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

A letter of the 3d, from the council of Virginia, and one of the same date, from brigadier-general Lewis, were read.

Agreeable to the order of the day, commodore Hopkins attended, and was admitted ; when the examination, taken before the marine committee, and the report of the said committee in consequence thereof, were read to him ; and the commodore being heard in his own defence, and having delivered in some further answers to the questions asked him by the marine committee, and two witnesses being, at his request, introduced and examined, he withdrew.

Congress then took into consideration the instructions given to commodore Hopkins, his examination and answers to the marine committee, and the report of the marine committee thereupon ; also, the farther defence by him made, and the testimony of the witnesses ; and, after some debate, the farther consideration thereof was postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, *August 13*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the 8th Virginia battalion be taken into pay from the 27th day of May last, and the 7th from the 17th day of June last.

The marine committee having recommended William Barnes for first lieutenant on board one of the frigates built at Philadelphia ; Thomas Vaughan, second mate of the ship Alfred, to be third lieutenant of the Washington frigate, commanded by Thomas Reed, esq. and Elisha Hinman, to the command of the Cabot,

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly ; and that captain Saltonstal be ordered to discharge Mr. Vaughan, that he may repair to the command to which he is now appointed.

Colonel Mercer, of the 3d Virginia battalion, being promoted to the rank of brigadier-general, and William Christian, who was appointed colonel of the first battalion, having declined to accept his commission, and colonel William Peachy, of the fifth battalion, having resigned, Congress proceeded to the election of officers to fill the vacancies occasioned thereby, and the ballots being taken, Charles Scott, George Weeden, and Isaac Reade, esquires, were elected colonels ; Alexander Spotswood, Thomas Marshall, and Robert Lawson, esqrs. lieutenant-colonels ; and James Junis and John Green, esqrs. majors.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Conrad Alster, for 214 meals supplied to the militia on their march to New-Jersey, the sum of 21 36-90 dollars :

To James Davis, for 70 meals supplied captain Clark's company of militia, on their march to New-Jersey, 7 9-90 dollars :

To major Blackden, for the hire of a sleigh and two horses from Albany to Quebec, cash expended going express from general Arnold to Sorel, and for a horse, bridle, and saddle, lost at Dechambeau, in the service of the colonies, 153 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

The board of treasury to whom it was referred to devise ways and means for paying Messrs. Price and Heywood, brought in their report ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an order be sent to general Schuyler and general Gates, to pay all the specie that they may have in their hands, belonging to the United States, to Messrs. Price & Heywood, in part of the balance due to them from the said states, and transmit an account thereof to Congress :

That the committee of treasury be directed to use their endeavors to procure gold and silver, as quickly as possible, to discharge the remainder :

That Messrs. Price and Haywood be allowed at the rate of five per cent. per annum interest, for the balance that may be due to them, after deducting the sum that shall be paid them by generals Schuyler and Gates, from the time of such payment until the said balance is paid.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to advance one month's pay to the officers and men from Maryland, on their march to the flying-camp :

That the deputy quarter-master general be directed to supply the troops from Maryland with such articles as they may stand in need of, out of the stores in his hands belonging to the continent.

*Resolved*, That the five millions of dollars, last ordered to be emitted, consist of the following numbers and denominations, viz.

76,923 of 30 dollars each,	2,307,690	76,924 of 5 dollars each,	384,620
76,923 of 8 do.	- 615,384	76,923 of 4 do.	- 307,692
76,923 of 7 do.	- 538,461	76,923 of 3 do.	- 230,769
76,923 of 6 do.	- 461,538	76,923 of 2 do.	- 153,846
			<hr/> 5,000,000

*Resolved*, That an order for 2,666 2-3 dollars, be drawn on the treasurers in favor of Ludwick Karcher, for the purpose of victualling the troops marching to the flying-camp ; he to be accountable.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be informed that Congress have not received the treaty between the state of Massachusetts-Bay and the St. John's and Micmac Indians, and that he be requested to send a copy thereof :

That the secret committee be directed to furnish colonel Wilson with 23 muskets, 22 lb. of powder, and 88 lb. of lead, for the use of his battalion of militia.

The said board having recommended William Caldwell to be pay-master of colonel Baldwin's regiment of continental troops raised in Massachusetts-Bay, and William Lawrence to be pay-master of colonel Shee's battalion of continental troops, raised in the state of Pennsylvania,

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That an order for 296 1-3 dollars be paid to the order of Messrs. Simon and Campbell, in full of a draught in their favor by George Morgan, dated at Pittsburg, June 3d, 1776, and that the same be charged to the account of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to deliver to James Mease, the sheeting, in their hands, for the use of the continental troops.

Congress being informed that Alexander Ross is detained at Pittsburg,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the commissioners for Indian affairs, to enquire into this matter, and, if they find no new cause for detaining him since he was before the committee of Congress, and they think it proper, that they permit him to pursue his journey into the Indian country.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee appointed to consider the application of the Rev. Mr. Leonard.

The member chosen, Mr. Hall.

A letter of the 12th, from brigadier-general Mercer, was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

Congress took into consideration the articles of war, and, after some time spent thereon, the farther consideration thereof was postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, August 14, 1776.**

A letter of the 12th, from general Washington, with a return of the army at New-York, and sundry other papers enclosed, being received, was read :

Also, sundry letters from England were read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war.

On request of the delegates of New-Jersey,

*Resolved*, That the tutors in Princeton college be detained from going to the flying-camp, and that the said tutors be directed to continue in the said college exercising their several functions.

The committee appointed to devise a plan for encouraging the Hessians, and other foreigners, to quit the British service, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon, Congress came to the following resolution :

Whereas it has been the wise policy of these states to extend the protection of their laws to all those who should settle among them, of whatever nation or religion they might be, and to admit them to a participation of the benefits of civil and religious freedom ; and, the benevolence of this practice, as well as its salutary effects, have rendered it worthy of being continued in future times.

And whereas, his Britannic majesty, in order to destroy our freedom and happiness, has commenced against us a cruel and unprovoked war ; and, unable to engage Britons sufficient to execute his sanguinary measures, has applied for aid to foreign princes, who are in the habit of selling the blood of their people for money, and from them has procured and transported hither considerable numbers of foreigners. And it is conceived, that such foreigners, if apprised of the practice of these states, would choose to accept of lands, liberty, safety and a communion of good laws, and mild government, in a country where many of their friends and relations are already happily settled, rather than continue exposed to the toils and dangers of a long and bloody war, waged against a people, guilty of no other crime, than that of refusing to exchange freedom for slavery ; and that they will do this the more especially when they reflect, that after they have violated every Christian and moral precept, by invading, and attempting to destroy, those who have never injured them or their country, their only reward, if they escape death and captivity, will be a return to the despotism of their prince, to be by him again sold to do the drudgery of some other enemy to the rights of mankind.

And whereas, the parliament of Great-Britain have thought fit, by a late act, not only to invite our troops to desert our service, but to direct a compulsion of our people, taken at sea, to serve against their country :

*Resolved*, Therefore, that these states will receive all such foreigners who shall leave the armies of his Britannic majesty in America, and shall choose to become members of any of these states ; and they shall be protected in the free exercise of their respective religions, and be invested with the rights, privileges and immunities of natives, as established by the laws of these states ; and, moreover, that this Congress will provide, for every such person, fifty acres of unappropriated lands in some of these states, to be held by him and his heirs in absolute property.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing resolution be committed to the committee, who brought in the report, and that they be directed to have it translated into German, and to take proper measures to have it communicated to the foreign troops.

*Resolved*, That Dr. Franklin be added to the said committee.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To captain William Ross, for subsistence and ferriage of his company of 67 men, of colonel Smith's battalion, on their march from York county to New Jersey, the sum of 52 dollars, and 49-90ths :

To Daniel Smith, for captain Gamble's allowance, from 26th April to 10th August instant, being 15 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, the sum of 30 dollars:

To John Davis, for 33 days hire of a wagon transporting the baggage of capt. Hay's company of col. Irwin's battalion, from Carlisle to New-York, 110 dollars, and for 41 meals supplied capt. Thomas Turbutt's company of col. Wilson's battalion, on their march from Cumberland county to New-Jersey, the sum of 4 dollars and 9-90ths.

To John Eshenbach, for 19 meals supplied recruits of capt. Cluggage's company of colonel Hand's battalion, 1 dollar and 81-90ths:

To colonel Clement Biddle, for 150 camp-kettles, 200 dollars:

To Dr. John Coates, for a set of surgeon's instruments lost on his march with general Arnold from Cambridge to Quebec, the sum of 26 dollars and 60-90ths:

To Sarah Campbell, for nursing and boarding 7 sick men belonging to captains Beaty, Benezet and Miller's companies, 30 dollars and 7-90ths.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A petition from Elisha Swift, and Adonijah Spanborrough, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the delegates from Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Weibert, now serving in the continental army at New-York, as an engineer, be appointed assistant engineer, with the rank and pay of lieutenant-colonel; and that his pay commence from the time of his engaging in the service.

That general Mercer be directed to discharge or grant furloughs to Joseph Kerr, hatter, a private of captain Will's company in the first battalion; and to Philip Mause, stocking-weaver, a private in captain Kling's company of the fourth battalion of Philadelphia militia; these two persons being applied for by Mr. Mease, commissary, to whom their services are indispensably necessary in making and providing clothing for the army.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, August 15, 1776.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That James Livingston, having been appointed a colonel of a regiment by general Montgomery, have a colonel's commission given him, with orders to enlist as many companies of Canadians as are willing to engage in the service; and that the commander in chief, in the northern department, be directed to recommend to Congress, proper persons for officers under him.

The council of safety of Pennsylvania, having recommended Mr. Bernard Hubley, jun. as first lieutenant in the fifth company of the German battalion,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and that a commission be granted to him accordingly.

A petition from Return Jonathan Meigs, in behalf of himself and others, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurers, in favor of James Mease, for the use of the militia going to New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 500 dollars be lodged in the hands of the auditor-general, for the purpose of discharging small debts; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to colonel M'Callister, eight stand of arms for the use of his battalion, the said committee taking security for the return of the said arms:

That the said committee be directed to deliver to the delegates of North-Carolina, five tons of lead, for the use of the troops in that state.

The committee to whom the letter from governor Trumbull of the 19th July, with sundry depositions and papers, was referred, brought in their report, which was read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A petition from Jeremiah Dugan, was presented and read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions given to commodore Hopkins, his examination and answers, &c. and, thereupon, came to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the said commodore Hopkins, during his cruize to the southward, did not pay due regard to the tenor of his instructions, whereby he was expressly directed to annoy the enemy's ships upon the coasts of the southern states ; and, that his reasons for not going from Providence immediately to the Carolinas, are by no means satisfactory.

At the request of the delegates of Pennsylvania, the farther consideration of the report was postponed till to-morrow.

A letter of the 14th, from general Washington, one from general Schuyler, of the 7th, and one, of the 5th, from general Gates, being received, were read.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to Mr. Trumbull, deputy pay-master general, for the use of the army in the northern department.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to the order of the marine committee, such stores by them imported as are necessary for the fleet.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, August 16, 1776.

A letter, of the 15th, from general Washington, was read.

The board of treasury, who were appointed to prepare instructions for the commissioners appointed to settle the accounts of the army at New-York, and in the northern department, brought in a draught, which was read and agreed to as follows :

To \_\_\_\_\_

Gentlemen : You are appointed commissioners by the Congress, to liquidate the accounts of the army in \_\_\_\_\_ You will, therefore, proceed immediately to \_\_\_\_\_ and apply to general \_\_\_\_\_ to direct all persons who have been engaged in transacting public business, to lay their accounts before you. In your examination, you will observe the utmost exactness ; taking care not to allow any accounts for which proper vouchers are not produced. No officer is permitted to hold two commissions ; consequently, is not to receive pay for two.

Every colonel of a battalion ought to produce muster-rolls, certified by the muster-master, or such other person as may have been appointed by the commanding officer, to muster the men, of the number his battalion, from time to time, consisted of.

No allowance of pay, or rations, is to be made to any officer for men who have not been actually in the continental service.

If, in the settlement of these accounts, you shall discover any frauds to have been practised, or abuses committed by misapplication of public moneys, you shall take particular notice of them, and make especial report to the committee of treasury. When you have completed this business, you are to transmit a copy of your proceedings, with accounts, to the committee of treasury, to be by them finally adjusted and discharged.

*Ordered*, That a copy be made out and delivered to the respective commissioners.

**Resolved**, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be sent to Ebenezer Hancock, esq. deputy pay-master general, for the use of the army in the eastern department.

**Resolved**, That the sum of 1000 dollars be advanced to captain John David helper, for the bounty money, &c. of his company; he to be accountable.

A petition from Dr. Samuel Stringer, was presented and read:

**Resolved**, That it be referred to the medical committee.

**Resolved**, That the medical committee be empowered to purchase such medicines as they judge proper and useful for the army.

**Resolved**, That a member be added to the committee to whom were referred letters and papers respecting the murder of Mr. Parsons:

The member chosen, Mr. J. Adams.

The committee, to whom the letter from general Putnam, in favor of the . Abiel Leonard, was referred, reported,

“That it appears, from a farther certificate of general Putnam, that Mr. Leonard performed the duty of a chaplain to other regiments than that of the general’s, for the space of eight months, for which he has had no compensation; and that it also appears, that Mr. Leonard’s services, at that time in the army, were very necessary and useful:” Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the sum of 300 dollars be paid to the said Mr. Abiel Leonard, as a reward for his services.

**Resolved**, That the letters received yesterday from general Washington, general Schuyler, and general Gates, be referred to the board of war.

Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions given to commodore Hopkins, his examination and answers, &c. and, thereupon came to the following resolution:

**Resolved**, That the said conduct of commodore Hopkins deserves the censure of this house, and this house does accordingly censure him.

**Ordered**, That a copy of the resolutions passed against commodore Hopkins be transmitted to him.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o’clock to-morrow.

### SATURDAY, *August 17*, 1776.

A letter of the 13th, from general Washington, was read.

The delegates of New-Jersey laid before Congress a resolution of their convention, empowering any one of them to represent the said state, in these words:

“IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NEW-JERSEY, *Burlington, June 22*, 1776.

Upon the question, whether one or more delegates shall be a quorum to represent this province in Continental Congress, it was carried in favor of

“Extract from the minutes,

“WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary*.”

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To John Bates, for 187 camp-kettles, delivered to Clement Biddle, deputy quarter-master general, 249 dollars:

To George Bunner, for a rifle purchased by lieutenant Moses Rawling, from John Piper, in Maryland, for the use of captain Grier’s rifle-company, and to be charged to said company, 10 60-90 dollars:

To Messrs. Gibson and Aston, for 5 rifles furnished captain Morgan’s company of riflemen, by persons in Frederick county, Virginia, and certified by the committee there, and to be charged to the said Morgan, 65 30-90 dollars:

To James Mercer, for 597 meals furnished to the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 59 63-90 dollars:

To William Clayton, for 454 meals supplied the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 45 36-90 dollars:

To William Allibone, for his expenses in search of flint-stones, by direction of the board of war, 6 dollars :

To Joseph Hinzey, for 7 chairs and a stool, for the use of the treasury office, 15 18-90 dollars :

To William M'Carroll, for the passage of prisoners taken by captain Barry from Egg-Harbor to Philadelphia, with their maintenance on the road, 4 56-90 dollars :

To colonel Henry Haller, 425 39-90 dollars, of which sum 20 dollars are to be charged to captain Nelson, for two rifles delivered to him by David Miers ; 14 54-90 dollars to the army, for rations supplied captain Nelson's company ; 24 dollars for contingent expenses of three expresses ; and 366 75-90 dollars for provisions for the prisoners at Reading, with fire-wood, salt, straw, &c. including 39 days' service of the said Haller :

To George Struyls, for entertainment of the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 78 64-90 dollars :

To Robert Jewell, for sundry bills for the repair of the old gaol in Philadelphia, and work done at the new gaol, 178 58-90 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee on Indian affairs, to whom sundry letters and papers from Pittsburg were referred, having examined them, laid the same on the table, and desired they might be read, which was done.

*Resolved*, That an order for 50 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of George Morgan, for the use of Peter Long, for his services in the Indian country.

*Resolved*, That the accounts of George Morgan, esq. be referred to the board of treasury.

A letter of this day, from Martin Johnson, lieutenant of artillery, was laid before Congress and read ; wherein he desires Congress to enquire into the circumstances of Mr. Anstruther's diamond ring, which he acknowledges he has ; that he never made a secret of it ; that he found the ring sometime after the garrison capitulated, and thought it to be a prize ; and, for the truth of what he asserts, refers Congress to the certificates of several principal officers.

*Resolved*, That lieutenant Martin Johnson be directed to deliver the ring to the secretary of the war office, who is ordered to send the same to Mr. Anstruther, the owner.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee to whom was referred brigadier-general Wooster's letter, requesting an enquiry into his conduct while he had the honor of commanding the continental forces in Canada, which was read, as follows :

That brigadier-general Wooster produced copies of a number of letters which passed between him and general Schuyler, and of his letters to Congress ; from which it appears that he, from time to time, gave seasonable and due notice of the state of the army under his command, and what supplies were, in his opinion, necessary to render the enterprize successful ; that a number of officers and other gentlemen from Canada, who were acquainted with his conduct there, and who happened occasionally to be in this city, were examined before the committee ; to which letters, and the minutes of the examination of the witnesses herewith exhibited, the committee beg leave to refer Congress for further information, and report, as the opinion of the committee, upon the whole of the evidence that was before them, that nothing censurable or blameworthy appears against brigadier-general Wooster.

The report being again read, was agreed to.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Gustavus Risberg be appointed assistant to Clement Biddle, deputy quarter-master general to the flying-camp, and that he reside at Philadelphia.

**Resolved**, That general Washington be desired to propose an exchange of Britannic majesty's prisoners, captivated at St. Johns and Chambly, for use in the service of the United States, taken in Canada:

That major Meggs be exchanged for major French, and captain Henry Dearn for an officer of his rank:

That in case a general exchange of prisoners should not be agreed to, that provision be made for supplying our prisoners in Canada with necessaries, by curing and sending bills of exchange, drawn by British officers, prisoners in these states; or, if such cannot be obtained, that cash be sent to them.

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the convention of Maryland, to raise on arm two battalions upon the continental establishment:

That the men for the said battalions be enlisted to serve during the war, and sooner discharged by Congress:

That the said convention recommend to Congress suitable persons for field officers of the said battalions, and appoint all the other officers:

That the said battalions be taken into continental pay so soon as they are armed and accoutred for service, and accordingly mustered:

That 20,000 dollars be sent to the said convention, to defray the expenses of arming the said battalions; to be accounted for to Congress.

Colonel Biddle having, by order of general Mercer, applied for the following articles, viz. 500 firelocks with bayonets, and 500 bayonets with scabbards of different sizes, 200 spare ramrods, 4,000 priming wires, and 20,000 flints:

**Resolved**, That Mr. J. Mease, commissary, be directed to provide and deliver to colonel Biddle, or his order, the above articles, or as many of them as can be procured.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, August 19, 1776.

A letter, of the 12th, from general Washington, with the proceedings and judgment of a court-martial against col. Donald Campbell enclosed, was read:

**Resolved**, That the proceedings and judgment of the court-martial be sent to general Schuyler for his approbation or disapprobation.

Another letter, of the 14th, from general Washington, with papers enclosed, relative to Mr. Nubile, a foreigner, was read:

**Resolved**, That it be referred to the board of war.

A letter of the 14th, from commodore Hopkins, was read; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That commodore Hopkins be directed to repair to Rhode-Island, and take the command of the fleet formerly put under his care.

A letter, of the 19th, from lieutenant M. Johnson, was read; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the stoppage of lieutenant M. Johnson's pay be taken off, and that he receive what is due to him.

A letter of the 19th, from brigadier-general Wooster, was read;

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

The board of war having recommended captain James Chapman to be major of colonel Tyler's battalion, and captain Thomas Dyer to be major of colonel Mifflin's,

**Resolved**, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

**Resolved**, That the board of treasury be empowered to employ another press to print the bills of credit, and that Matthew Clarkson and Walter Shee, esqrs. be appointed superintendents of the press, in addition to those already appointed for that service.

A petition from Chapman Ashur was presented to Congress, and read.

The committee on Indian affairs, to whom the letters from the commissioners in the middle and southern departments were referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be left to the discretion of the commissioners in the middle department, to postpone the holding the treaty with the Indians in their department, to such time as they think best; and that, if, by continuing at Pittsburg in the mean while, they are of opinion they shall be able to bring the Indians into a friendly disposition, and to render the treaty more general, they be desired to continue there:

That the invitation given by the said commissioners to such of the Six Nations of Indians, as live on the waters of the Ohio, to attend the said treaty, be approved;

That the said commissioners be instructed to make diligent enquiry into the murder lately committed by Indians, in the neighborhood of Pittsburg, on one Crawford; and that, as soon as they discover by whom the same was committed, they demand due punishment on the offender or offenders, which being granted, this Congress will not consider the same as a national act:

That the said commissioners invite such of the Indian chiefs and warriors of their department, as they think best, to visit Congress at Philadelphia, after the conclusion of the treaty with them:

That the following extract from the speech of Logan, an Indian chief, be transmitted to the commissioners for the middle department, viz. "We still hear bad news. Connesdico and some of us are constantly threatened. And the Bear-skin, a trader from Pennsylvania, amongst others, says, a great reward is offered to any person, who will take or entice either of us to Pittsburg, where we are to be hanged up like dogs by the Big-knife. This being true, how can we think of what is good. That it is true we have no doubt, and you may depend on it, that the Bear-skin told Metopsica every word of what I have mentioned." And that they be directed to do all in their power to remove every jealousy of the United States, or either of them, from the minds of the Indians. And, as it may possibly happen, that the persons concerned in the Indian trade, in order to engross to themselves or to the traders of their own state, the whole of the said Indian trade, may, by false suggestions, endeavor to poison the minds of the said Indians, and render them inimical to any other state, and to involve such state in an Indian war, that it be therefore recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the several states, from which trade is carried on with the Indians, that they take the most effectual measures to prevent the traders of their respective states from pursuing a practice so dangerous to the peace of the United States:

That so much of the Indian speech as relates to the Nantikokes, be sent to the convention of Maryland, and that they be requested to give Congress such information upon the subject as they can obtain:

That agreeable to the proposition from the commissioners for Indian affairs in the southern department, Mr. Galphin and Mr. Ray be desired to invite such of the head men of the Creeks, as they shall think expedient, to visit Congress at Philadelphia, and that Mr. Galphin or Mr. Ray be requested to attend them hither, and that Congress will defray the expenses of such journey.

*Resolved*, That the part of the report respecting the neutrality of the Indians be postponed.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1200 dollars be advanced to the commissioners appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the army at New-York, and in the northern department; they to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the articles of war, as revised by the committee for that purpose appointed, and after some time spent thereon, the farther consideration thereof was postponed.

*Resolved*, That captain Archibald Hamilton be permitted to reside at New-Brunswick, until the farther orders of Congress.

The committee to whom was referred, the petition from Elisha Swift, &c. brought in their report.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Jacob Vanderhyden for clothing supplied the army in Canada, viz. capt. Ten Eyck's company, £ 256 15 5 ; to capt. John Visser's company £ 188 14 5 ; to capt. John Viagar, £ 34 6 6 ; to capt. John Graim, £ 52 0 7 ; to gen. Arnold, for the army, £ 4 19 0 ; for shoes purchased by order of the commissioners of Congress, £ 21 12 0 ; the whole amounting to £ 595 7 11, lawful money, equal to 1984 59-90 dollars :

To George Morgan, esq. for the balance of his account for sundries supplied for the middle department, to be charged to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the said department, 377 75-90 dollars :

To Robert Irwin, for the hire of four teams, and their ferriage, to New-York, 162 20-90 dollars :

To Christian Voigt, for 116 meals supplied the troops on their march to New-Jersey, 7 33-90 dollars ; and that the same be paid to George Hufnagel :

To George Hufnagel, for 666 meals supplied the troops on their march to New-Jersey, 42 25-90 dollars :

To colonel Jeremiah Dugan, for the balance of his account for supplies to the army in Canada, exclusive of sundry articles for which he has produced no vouchers, 698 45-90 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, August 20, 1776.

A letter of the 18th, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a committee of five :

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Hooper.

A petition from Harduin Mertlet, was read, and referred to the Canada committee.

The committee to whom was referred, the petition from Dr. Stringer, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration ; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Dr. Morgan was appointed director-general and physician in chief of the American hospital :

That Dr. Stringer was appointed director and physician of the hospital in the northern department only :

That every director of a hospital possesses the exclusive right of appointing surgeons and hospital officers of all kinds, agreeable to the resolutions of Congress of the 17th of July, in his own department, unless otherwise directed by Congress :

That Dr. Stringer be authorized to appoint a surgeon for the fleet now fitting out upon the lakes :

That a druggist be appointed in Philadelphia, whose business it shall be, to receive and deliver all medicines, instruments, and shop-furniture for the benefit of the United States :

That a salary of 30 dollars a month be paid to the said druggist for his labor.

Congress proceeded to the election of a druggist, and, the ballots being taken, Dr. William Smith was elected.

The board of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Joseph Haight, for sundry supplies of provisions and wood for the prisoners at Burlington, from the 10th June to the 18th July last, 277 36-90 dollars ;

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A letter from Mease and Caldwell was laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. Walton, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Paine.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the articles of confederation; and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Morton reported, that the committee having had under consideration the articles of confederation, had gone through the same, and agreed to sundry articles, which he was ordered to submit to Congress.

The report of the committee being read,

*Ordered*, That eighty copies of the articles of confederation, as reported from the committee of the whole, be printed under the same injunctions as the former articles, and delivered to the members under the like instructions as formerly.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hamilton Young be permitted to reside in Pennsylvania, until the farther orders of Congress.

The committee appointed to prepare a device for a great seal for the United States, brought in the same, with an explanation thereof:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A letter of the 19th, from general Washington, was read.

Information being given to Congress that the crews of some of the American vessels have risen against their captains, and piratically seized the vessels, and that one of them being carried into England, the pirates have been publicly countenanced, and the vessel and cargo taken by administration, and sent to victual their fleet and army in America:

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the circumstances of the captures, and report thereon:

The members chosen, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Jefferson.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, August 21, 1776.

A petition from Prudhomme la Junesse was read, and referred to the board of war.

The committee to whom the memorial of Samuel Holden Parsons was referred, brought in their report, which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Basil Bouderot, mentioned in the said memorial, be sent to the state of Massachusetts-Bay, and there delivered to the council of the said state, and that it be recommended to the said council to proceed against the said Basil Bouderot according to the laws of their state; but, if they have no law by which crimes committed out of their state may be tried within the same, that then they confine the said Basil Bouderot, until the situation of public affairs will admit his being removed to Nova-Scotia, where the crime is alleged to have been committed, and there submitted to a fair trial, according to the ancient laws of that province.

The committee to whom part of the report from the committee on spies was re-committed, having brought in a report, the same was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That all persons, not members of, nor owing allegiance to, any of the United States of America, as described in a resolution of Congress of the 24th of June last, who shall be found lurking as spies in or about the fortifications or encampments of the armies of the United States, or of any of them, shall suffer death, according to the law and usage of nations, by sentence of a court-martial, or such other punishment as such court-martial shall direct.

*Ordered*, That the above resolution be printed at the end of the rules and articles of war.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general for the use of the army at New-York.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the cannon committee be directed to contract for the immediate casting of six 6 pounders, six 12 pounders, four 8 inch howitzers, four 6 inch howitzers, and 6 cohorn mortars, to be made of brass, if a sufficient quantity of that metal can be procured; if not, to be cast of iron, and sent, as soon as possible, to general Gates for the use of the northern army, and that the said committee provide also carriages, and every thing necessary to complete the said artillery for service:

That major-general Ward be authorized and requested, if his health will permit, to continue in the command of the forces in the service of the United States, in the eastern department, until farther orders:

That the cannon committee be authorized to possess themselves of the copper said to be at New-London, belonging to the United States.

*Resolved*, That colonel Henry Knox be authorized to draw upon the paymaster general for money sufficient to pay for any quantity of copper that can be procured for the use of the United States; he to render an account of the sums drawn for, and the copper purchased.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, read yesterday, and that of the 12th, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war.

A letter to the committee of secret correspondence was read.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to revise the resolutions of Congress, respecting the place where prizes are to be carried into, and to bring in such farther resolutions as to them shall seem proper:

The members chosen, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Morris, and Mr. J. Adams.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *August 22*, 1776.

A letter, of the 20th, from gen. Washington, enclosing a copy of major Bigelow's journal, and gen. Carleton's order of the 4th of August; also, a letter of the 16th, from general Schuyler, were read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war:

That the letter from general Schuyler be referred to the committee on the miscarriages in Canada.

The president laid before Congress a warrant for apprehending Thomas Reed, Patrick Ballantine, and Robert Gilmore, and informed that, in consequence thereof, a party of light-horse have brought the prisoners to Philadelphia, where they are confined, under a guard, at the Indian-Queen tavern.

*Resolved*, That the prisoners be sent for examination to the council of safety of Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That 1400 dollars be paid to Alexander Tod, it being in full of an order in his favor, drawn by George Morgan, for goods purchased for the treaty at Pittsburg, and that the same be charged to the accounts of the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department.

*Resolved*, That an order for 2000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of colonel Mark Bird, who has contracted to cast cannon for the United States; he to be accountable.

The board of war brought in a report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The committee, to whom the letter from general Washington of the 18th, was referred, brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration, the form of a treaty; and, after some time, the president re-

sumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter to them referred; but, not having had time to go through the same, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the plan of foreign treaties.

A letter of the 18th, from the council of safety of Maryland, was read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 26,666 2-3 dollars, be advanced to the council of safety of Maryland, for the use of the troops raised for the flying-camp; they to be accountable.

A letter from brigadier-general Lewis; also, a letter from the committee of Carlisle, in Pennsylvania, enclosing a memorial from the officers, prisoners there, were read, and referred to the board of war.

The marine committee having recommended Dudley Saltonstall to the command of the frigate Trumbull; Jonathan Maltby, first-lieutenant, and David Phipps to be second-lieutenant of the said frigate;—Wilson to be first-lieutenant of the Washington, and John Nicholson to be second-lieutenant of ditto; John Hodge to command the Montgomery frigate, at New-York.

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and commissions granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to major Nichols, a number of muskets, sufficient to arm the marines under his command in this city.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Robert Jewell, for a writing-desk, stools, &c. for the board of war, the sum of 31 60-90ths dollars:

To John Bates, for 120 camp-kettles, delivered to deputy quarter-master general C. Biddle, 160 dollars:

To John Bogart, for the expenses of burying a soldier of captain Harman's company, and for maintenance and nursing of him, and one other soldier, belonging to captain Willet's company, both of the first Pennsylvania battalion, 19 30-90ths dollars; and for the expense of guards escorting powder, &c. 5 31-90ths dollars; both amounting to 24 61-90ths dollars; and to be paid to Joseph Burrell:

To Oswald Eve, for surveying the inlets to the northward of Cape-May, by order of a committee of Congress, 224 55-90ths dollars:

To Richard Bache, Stephen Paschall and Michael Hillegas, for superintending the press from December the 13th, 1775, to February the 3d, 1776, in printing the second emission of continental bills of credit, and of the 10,000 dollars, struck for the purpose of exchanging torn and ragged bills, 45 days each, at two dollars, agreeable to a resolve of Congress, 270 dollars:

To James Budden, for hire of wagons and expenses of prisoners, &c. to Reading and Carlisle, 164 54-90ths dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, August 23, 1776.

A letter of the 21st from general Washington, enclosing a copy of a letter from him to lord Howe, together with his lordship's answer, was read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the board of war, with orders to publish the general's letter to lord Howe, and his lordship's answer.

A petition from William Holton was read, and referred to the marine committee.

A petition from James M'Henry was read, and referred to the medical committee.

A petition from Lewis Prah, gun-smith, was read; praying that the workmen in his manufactory may be exempted from going to the flying-camp, and that two of his workmen, who have enlisted, may be discharged:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

The delegates from Pennsylvania and Connecticut, to whom the application from the convention of Pennsylvania, and the inhabitants settled under Connecticut, in the town of Westmoreland, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That six companies, on the continental establishment, be raised in Pennsylvania, and posted along the frontiers of the counties of Northumberland and parts adjacent, till further orders of Congress:

That suitable persons be recommended to Congress, by the convention of Pennsylvania, for a lieutenant-colonel and major, to command the said forces, and that the said convention appoint the captains and subalterns:

That two companies, on the continental establishment, be raised in the town of Westmoreland, and stationed in proper places for the defence of the inhabitants of the said town and parts adjacent, till farther orders of Congress; the commissioned officers of the said two companies to be immediately appointed by Congress:

That the pay of the men to be raised as aforesaid, commence when they are armed and mustered, and that they be liable to serve in any part of the United States, when ordered by Congress:

That the said troops be enlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged by Congress.

*Resolved*, That any number of troops, ordered into the service of the continent, by Maryland, above the quota of that state, be taken into continental pay.

A letter from Mr. Temple, of Charlestown, in Massachusetts-Bay, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Heyward, and Mr. Stone.

*Resolved*, That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of Mr. James Mease, for the public service; he to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the marine committee; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be authorized and empowered to purchase materials, in all such parts of America as they may think proper, for building more ships of war, and that the said committee report to Congress a plan of the ships that should be built in addition to the present navy.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, August 26, 1776.

Three letters, of the 22d and 23d, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed; a letter from William Finnie, deputy quarter-master general of the southern department, were read and referred to the board of war.

A letter of the 18th, from general Schuyler, was read; and the same, together with the minutes of the treaty held with the Indians at the German-Flats, were referred to the standing committee on Indian affairs.

A letter from William Coxe and others, owners of three privateers fitting out in Philadelphia, was read, and referred to the marine committee.

A petition from George Measam was read and referred to the board of war.

Congress proceeded to the election of sundry officers, when Jonathan Dayton was elected regimental pay-master of colonel Dayton's battalion; Robert Durkee and Samuel Ransom, captains of the two companies ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland; James Wellis and Perin Ross, first lieutenants; Ashael Buck and Simon Spalding, second lieutenants; and Heman Swift and Matthew Hollomback, ensigns of said companies.

On application from the convention of the state of Pennsylvania,  
*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be lent to the said convention of Pennsylvania, to be put into the hands of the council of safety ; the said state to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to send to capt. Durkee 200 lb. powder, and a proportionable quantity of lead, for the use of the two Westmoreland companies.

*Resolved*, That an order for 500 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of Mr. Philip Schuyler, in full for 500 lb. of powder purchased on the Eastern-Shore, for the use of the continental forces.

*Resolved*, That the president be empowered to give orders for the payment of the bills drawn by the treasurers of North-Carolina, for the use of the continental forces in that state.

On application of the parties,

*Resolved*, That the hearing and determining upon the appeal against the verdict and judgment passed upon the schooner Thistle, be farther postponed to Monday, the 9th of September next.

A petition from sundry paper-makers was presented to Congress, and read, praying that Nathan Sellers, an associator in colonel Paschall's battalion, may be ordered back from New-Jersey, to make and prepare moulds, washers, and utensils for carrying on the paper manufactory :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

Congress resumed the report of the committee on disabled soldiers and seamen, and came to the following resolutions :

Whereas, in the course of the present war, some commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the army and navy, as also private soldiers, marines, and seamen, may lose a limb, or be otherwise so disabled as to prevent their serving in the army or navy, or getting their livelihood, and may stand in need of relief :

*Resolved*, That every commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer, and private soldier, who shall lose a limb in any engagement, or be so disabled in the service of the United States of America as to render him incapable afterwards of getting a livelihood, shall receive, during his life, or the continuance of such disability, the one half of his monthly pay from and after the time that his pay as an officer or soldier ceases ; to be paid by the committee as hereafter mentioned :

That every commander of any ship of war or armed vessel, commissioned officer, warrant officer, marine or seaman, belonging to the United States of America, who shall lose a limb in any engagement in which no prize shall be taken, or be therein otherwise so disabled as to be rendered incapable of getting a livelihood, shall receive, during his life, or the continuance of such disability, the one half of his monthly pay, from and after the time that his pay as an officer or marine or seaman ceases ; to be paid as hereafter mentioned. But, in case a prize shall be taken at the time such loss of limb or other disability shall happen, then such sum as he may receive out of the net profits of such prize, before a dividend is made of the same, agreeable to former orders of Congress, shall be considered as part of his half pay, and computed accordingly :

That every commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer, and private soldier, in the army, and every commander, commission officer, warrant officer, marine, or seaman of any of the ships of war, or armed vessels belonging to the United States of America, who shall be wounded in any engagement, so as to be rendered incapable of serving in the army or navy, though not totally disabled from getting a livelihood, shall receive such monthly sum as shall be judged adequate by the assembly or other representative body of the state where he belongs or resides, upon application to them for that purpose, provided the same doth not exceed his half-pay.

Provided, that no commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer, and private soldier, in the army, commander, commission officer, warrant officer, marine or seaman of any of the ships of war, or armed vessels, belonging to the United States of America, who shall be wounded or disabled as aforesaid, shall be entitled to his half pay or other allowance, unless he produce to the committee or officer appointed to receive the same, in the state where he resides or belongs, or to the assembly or legislative body of such state, a certificate from the commanding officer, who was in the same engagement in which he was so wounded, or, in case of his death, from some other officer of the same corps, and the surgeon that attended him, or a certificate from the commander of the ship of war or armed vessel engaged in the action, in which any officer, marine, or seaman, received his wound, and from the surgeon who attended him, of the name of the person so wounded, his office, rank, department, regiment, company, ship of war, or armed vessel, to which he belonged, his office or rank therein, the nature of his wound, and in what action or engagement he received it.

That it be recommended to the several assemblies or legislative bodies of the United States of America, to appoint some person or persons in their respective states, who shall receive and examine all such certificates, as may be presented to them, and register the same in a book, and also what support is adjudged by the assembly or legislative body of their state, to those, whose case requires but a partial support, and also of the payment from time to time of every half-pay and other allowance, and of the death of such disabled person, or ceasing of such allowance, and shall make a fair and regular report of the same quarterly to the secretary of Congress or board of war, where a separate record shall be kept of the same :

That it be recommended to the assemblies or legislative bodies of the several states, to cause payment to be made of all such half-pay or other allowances as shall be adjudged due to the persons aforesaid, on account of the United States.

Provided, that all such officers and soldiers that may be entitled to the aforesaid pension, and are found to be capable of doing guard or garrison-duty, shall be formed into a corps of invalids, and subject to the said duty ; and all officers, marines, and seamen of the navy who shall be entitled to the pension aforesaid, and shall be found capable of doing any duty on board the navy, or any department thereof, shall be liable to be so employed :

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

The medical committee, to whom Dr. M'Henry's petition was referred, brought in a report : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Congress have a proper sense of the merit and services of Dr. M'Henry, and recommend to the directors of the different hospitals belonging to the United States, to appoint Dr. M'Henry to the first vacancy that shall happen, of a surgeon's birth in any of the said hospitals.

A letter of the 22d, from colonel James Wilson, was read, and referred to Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Franklin, and Mr. J. Adams.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, August 27, 1776.

A letter of the 23d, from general Mercer, was read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from Pelatiah Webster, was presented to Congress, and read, praying leave to sell the sloop Betsey, belonging to Abiel Wood, of Pownalborough, in the province of Maine ; from selling of which he is restrained by the committee of inspection of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, on account of exceptions taken to the political character of the owner : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the petitioner have leave to sell the said sloop ; the money arising from the sale, to be lodged in the hands of the assembly of Massachu-

setts-Bay, and by them disposed of in the same manner as the other estate of the owner.

*Resolved*, That Zebulon Butler, esq. be appointed to supply the two companies ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland, with provisions; and that he be allowed therefor, at the rate of 1-12th part of a dollar per ration, until farther order of Congress.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the legislature of the commonwealth of Virginia, to provide clothing for the continental troops raised in that state; the expense of the said clothing to be paid out of the continental military-chest for the southern department, and deducted out of the soldiers' pay:

That Mr. Measam, who petitions to be provided for on the score of his having served in Canada, and also desires payment of an account against the continent, be referred to the treasury-board, for a settlement of his account.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to deliver to the Maryland troops, such arms as are in their possession, belonging to the continent, and not already appropriated; the state of Maryland to be accountable for such arms delivered to their troops.

The committee, to whom the letter from colonel Wilson was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon, Congress came to the following resolutions:

Congress proceeding to take into farther consideration the expediency of inviting, from the service of his Britannic majesty, such foreigners as are engaged therein, and expecting that, among the officers having command in the said foreign corps, there may be many of liberal minds, possessing just sentiments of the rights of human nature, and of the inestimable value of freedom, who may be prompted to renounce so dishonorable a service, by the feelings of humanity, and a just indignation at the office to which they are devoted by an infamous contract between two arbitrary sovereigns, and at the insult offered them, by compelling them to wage war against an innocent people, who never offended them, nor the nation to which they belong, but are only contending for their just rights; and willing to tender to them also, as they had before done to the soldiers of their corps, a participation of the blessings of peace, liberty, property and mild government:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will give, to all such of the said foreign officers, as shall leave the armies of his Britannic majesty in America, and choose to become citizens of these states, unappropriated lands, in the following quantities and proportions, to them and their heirs in absolute dominion; to a colonel, 1000 acres; to a lieutenant-colonel, 800 acres; to a major, 600 acres; to a captain, 400 acres; to a lieutenant, 300 acres; to an ensign, 200 acres; to every non-commissioned officer, 100 acres, and to every other officer or person employed in the said foreign corps, and whose office or employment is not here specifically named, in the like proportion to their rank or pay in the said corps; and, moreover, that where any officers shall bring with them a number of the said foreign soldiers, this Congress, besides the lands before promised to the said officers and soldiers, will give to such officers further rewards, proportioned to the numbers they shall bring over, and suited to the nature of their wants. Provided, that such foreign officers or soldiers shall come over from the armies of his Britannic majesty, before these offers shall be recalled.

*Resolved*, That this Congress agrees to the proposition from general Howe, that in exchange of prisoners, the choice shall be made by the respective commanders for their own officers and men; provided the respective commanders shall also have a right to make choice what citizens shall be given in exchange by the other.

Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the plan of foreign treaties; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have gone through the same, and made sundry amendments therein.

*Resolved*, That the plan of treaties, with the amendments, be referred to the committee who brought in the original plan, in order to draw up instructions pursuant to the amendments made by the committee of the whole.

That two members be added to the said committee:

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee and Mr. Wilson.

A petition from the deputy commissary-general was read, and referred to the board of war.

Sundry members of the committee, appointed to revise the journals, and superintend the printing thereof, being absent,

*Resolved*, That four members be added to the said committee, and that any two be a quorum:

The members chosen, Mr. Heyward, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Walton.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *August 28*, 1776.

A letter of the 26th, from general Washington, enclosing a copy of a letter to him from lord Drummond; also, a letter of the 27th, from captain Wade, were read:

*Resolved*, That the letter from captain Wade be referred to the board of treasury, and that they be directed to send him 100 dollars; for which he is to be accountable.

A petition from Jacob Bankson, and one from Jean Langeay, were read, and referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That an order for 500,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the marine committee, who are to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

*Resolved*, That an order for 5000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the delegates of Georgia, for the purpose of purchasing rifles for the troops ordered to be raised for the defence of that state, and for defraying the expenses of their march to Georgia; the said delegates to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

Congress being informed that one of the Virginia battalions was on their march to New-Jersey, and that they intend to pass through Yorktown and Philadelphia,

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of the said battalion be directed to march from Yorktown, by the nearest route, to New-Jersey; there to be subject to the orders of general Washington.

The marine committee having recommended Joseph Greenway to be third lieutenant on board the Delaware frigate, commanded by Charles Alexander, esq.

*Resolved*, That he be accepted, and a commission granted to him accordingly.

A petition from Jacob Fowler was read, and referred to the standing committee for Indian affairs.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to lend ten bolts of light duck to the delegates of Maryland, for the use of the troops from that state; provided the same can be done without prejudicing the marine service.

*Resolved*, That an order for 312 dollars and 24-90ths be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the medical committee; the same being for a box of rhubarb bought by them of Pelatiah Webster.

The delegates of Virginia produced new credentials of their appointment, which were read as follows:

" VIRGINIA, SCT. IN CONVENTION, THURSDAY, June 20, 1776.

" The convention proceeded, according to the order of the day, to the appointment of delegates to represent this colony in general Congress, and the members having prepared tickets, and put the same into the ballot-box, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. George Mason, Mr. Blair, Mr. Holt, and Mr. Henry Tazewell were appointed a committee to examine the same, and report upon what majority falls; and, it appearing, from the report of the committee, the majority was in favor of George Wythe, Thomas Nelson, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, and Francis Lightfoot Lee, esqrs.

*Resolved, therefore,* That the said George Wythe, Thomas Nelson, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, and Francis Lightfoot Lee, esqrs. be, and are hereby, appointed delegates to represent this colony in general Congress for one year, from the 11th of August next.

" *Resolved,* That any three of the said delegates be a sufficient number to represent this colony in the said general Congress.

A copy :

JOHN TAZEWELL, Clk. Com.

The committee to whom the letter from Mease & Caldwell was referred brought in their report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved,* That 500 lb. of gun-powder be delivered to the said Mease & Caldwell, for the purpose of procuring deer-skins, to make breeches for the soldiery in the service of the United States; they to be accountable.

That the secret committee be directed to fall upon proper ways and means of procuring a further supply of deer-skins, for the like purpose, from Georgia and South-Carolina.

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from Harriot Temple, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved,* That, upon the said Harriot's producing to the quarter-master general, an account of the trees which were cut down upon the farm of Harriot Temple, esq. for the purpose of supplying the continental army with wood for firing, or for the purposes of fortifications, so far as from the nature of the circumstances such destruction can be ascertained by her, the quarter-master general of the continental army, shall make her a just compensation for the same, in such manner as other persons have been paid, who have supplied the army with wood for these purposes; and the quarter-master general, in his accounts, shall be allowed for the same by this Congress.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee for examining into, and rectifying, the defects in the powder, manufactured for the United States; and, thereupon,

*Resolved,* That there be an inspector or inspectors sufficiently qualified to judge the goodness of gun-powder, who shall examine every cask of gun-powder manufactured, or to be purchased on account of the United States, by the most approved method of ascertaining the quality of gun-powder, the said inspector or inspectors to receive one-eighth part of a dollar for every hundred weight of powder he or they shall so examine :

That no gun-powder be received into the public magazine for the use of the United States of America, or delivered from the powder-mills for that purpose, but such as has been approved of by the public inspector, as to its quality in firing, strength, dryness, and other necessary qualities :

That the inspector mark each cask approved, with the letters U. S. A. and such other marks as are necessary to distinguish the several sorts of gun-powder :

That every maker of gun-powder, mark every cask, in which he shall put his gun-powder, with the first letters of his name :

That gun-powder be put into no casks but such as are well seasoned and dry

That it be recommended to the legislatures of the several states of America, to cause suitable inspectors to be appointed, to examine and determine upon

of all gun-powder manufactured within their jurisdiction, and that no be allowed to vend any gun-powder, manufactured in any of the states erica, unless the same, in the judgment of such inspector, shall be of ent quality; and to make such laws for executing this, or any other regu- s for promoting the manufacture of good gun-powder, as to them may most convenient.

gress then proceeded to the election of an inspector of gun-powder; he ballots being taken, bert Towers was chosen.

olved, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general at New- e several matters to this day referred, being postponed, ourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *August 24*, 1776.

etter, of the 27th, from R. H. Harrison, the general's secretary, and one 28th, from general Mercer, both giving an account of an action on Long- l, on the 27th, were read, and referred to the board of war.

etter, of the 28th, from Richard Dallam, deputy pay-master general for ying-camp, was also read; Whereupon,

solved, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in fa- Gustavus Risberg, and that the same be charged to the account of Mr. m:

at the letter from Mr Dallam be referred to the board of treasury.

being represented by Dr. Franklin, one of the late commissioners to Ca- that Mons. Bernard Mousac de la Marquisie had a commission given to y the said commissioners, to be a captain and engineer in one of the regi- s to be raised there, and that he lost his commission, with his baggage, at bly; it was, thereupon,

solved, That a new commission be granted to him.

letter of the 3d, from lord Sterling, was read, and referred to the cannon mittee.

he marine committee having recommended Alpheus Rice to be first-lieu- nt of marines, on board the brig Hamden, commanded by Hoysted Hack- sq.

solved, That he be accepted, and a commission granted to him accordingly. he committee appointed to consider the claims of Canadians, who have in the service of the continent, reported,

that Samuel Morrison, who appears, by the certificates of lieutenant-colo- Williams and Brown, to have been at the siege of Quebec two months and ays, and to have rendered essential service in several capacities, and had promised a commission of captain, which he never received, be allowed sum of 40 dollars, in full for his said services:

that the petition of Hardouen Merlet, for a pension, in consideration of his ices, not being supported by any certificate, as a voucher relating to such ices, no allowance can, at present, properly be made to him:

that there be paid to Francis Bourignon, the sum of 45 1-3 dollars, due to for his service, as a private, three months, and as a serjeant, four months, olonel Hazen's and colonel Brown's regiments:

he said report being read, was agreed to.

letter of the 2d, from general Lee, at Charleston, with an intercepted er enclosed, was read.

solved, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to provide proper clothing for the man battalion, and also for the two Virginia battalions on their march to y-York, the cost of which clothing to be deducted out of the pay of the men toppages.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to provide proper arms for the German battalion ; and, in case they cannot otherwise provide arms, that they be empowered to apply to this purpose those ordered to be put into the hands of the marines :

That the said committee be directed to deliver to Mr. James Mease the bale of clothes in their possession, for the public service, he to be accountable.

That the said committee be directed to import the medicines ordered by the medical committee.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Joseph Sheerer, for account of captain Cowden, for 608 rations due to his company of militia, at the time of their march from Lancaster county, on their way to New-Jersey, 54 4-90 dollars :

To Joseph Sheerer, for account of captain James Murray, for 700 rations due to his company of militia, at the time of their march from Lancaster county, on their way to New-Jersey, 61 20-90 dollars :

To Richard Chiney, for 1311 meals, supplied the militia on their march to New Jersey, 122 66-90 dollars :

To David Jones, for his pay as chaplain to the 3d and 4th Pennsylvania battalions, from the 13th of June to the 29th of August, inclusive, 84 40-90 dollars :

To Josiah Fessenden, for services as an express, including horse-hire and travelling expenses, 89 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That George Measam, esq. be continued in the office of superintendent, commissary of stores, except artillery stores, for the northern army, with the pay of 33 1-3 dollars per month.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means of regulating the post-office, and of establishing advice-boats between the southern colonies and Philadelphia, so as to facilitate and expedite the conveying intelligence from one part of the continent to another :

The members chosen, Mr. Heyward, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. Morris.

*Resolved*, That the letter enclosed in that of general Lee's, of the 2d, and which was found on Long-Island, in South-Carolina, be published.

A letter from Monsieur Le Chevalier Saurelle was read, and referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the committee to whom the plan of treaties, with the amendments, was re-committed, be empowered to prepare such farther instructions as to them shall seem proper, and make report thereof to Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, August 30, 1776.

A letter of the 29th, from general Washington, and one of the 22d, from governor Trumbull, were read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from governor Trumbull be referred to the board of treasury.

*Resolved*, That the duck, in the hands of Mr. Green, at Rhode-Island, be made up into tents, and forwarded, with all possible expedition, to gen. Washington.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to purchase all the linen in this city, suitable for tents, and have the same made up, as soon as possible, and report to Congress immediately the quantity that can be procured.

A memorial from David White, of the county of Somerset, in New-Jersey, was presented to Congress, and read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That, from the state of facts in the said memorial, Congress have no objection to Mr. White's being excused from bearing arms, but remit the

to the assembly of New-Jersey, to whom the enquiry and determination properly belong.

A memorial from Mr. Kosciusko was read and referred to the board of war. Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on governor Trumbull's letter of the 19th of July, and, after debate, the report was recommended for the purpose of stating the facts and circumstances which induced governor Trumbull to stop the vessels going out of the sound.

The committee for regulating the post-office, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the communication of intelligence with frequency and despatch, from one part to another of this extensive continent, is essentially requisite to its safety; that, therefore, there be employed on the public post-roads, a rider for every twenty-five or thirty miles, whose business it shall be, to proceed through his stage three times in every week, setting out immediately on receipt of the mail, and travelling with the same, by night and by day, without stopping, until he shall have delivered it to the next rider; and that the post-master general be desired, either by the use of way-bills, or by such other means as he shall find most efficacious, to prevent delays in the riders, or to disorder where they happen, that such dilatory riders be discharged.

And, as it is requisite that the deputy post-masters should attend with punctuality at their several offices for the receipt and delivery of letters,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of these states, to consider how far it may be consistent with the policy and the good of their respective states, to excuse such deputy post-masters from those public duties, which may call them from attendance at their offices, and to proceed therein as to their wisdom shall seem best.

*Resolved*, That three advice-boats be established; one to ply between the state of North-Carolina, and such port as shall be most convenient to the place which the Congress shall be sitting; one other between the state of South-Carolina and the said port, and one other between the state of Georgia and the said port; that such advice-boats be armed, and put under the direction of the select committee, who are empowered to freight them with such merchandises and commodities, as, without retarding their passage, may, together with the usual postage on letters, and other papers transmitted by them, contribute to pay the expenses of the said boats.

The convention of New-York having represented that, for want of blacksmiths, they are greatly delayed in obstructing the passage of Hudson's river, at the Highlands, which is an object of great importance:

*Resolved*, That the convention of New-York be empowered to employ, for the purpose aforesaid, the blacksmiths that are now engaged in building the continental frigates at Poughkeepsie.

The committee, to whom the petition of William Bell & Co. was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to governor Trumbull to permit the sloop *Demason*, Epaphros Mygat, master, with her cargo, belonging to the petitioners, to proceed on her voyage to the island of St. Eustatia, so soon as the said master shall judge she may sail without falling into the hands of the enemy on the coast.

The committee appointed to enquire into the claims of sundry Canadians, reported, that there is due,

To Andrew Pepin, for two months' services as a captain, and 6 months' services as a lieutenant, together with rations during the time of his said services, 99 dollars and 1-3d:

To James Pellieur, for five months' services as a private, and three months' services as a lieutenant, together with one ration a day, during the said three months, 99 dollars and 1-3d.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee on the treasury reported, that there is due,

To Melchior Meng, for wagon and horse-hire, carrying money to New-York, escorted by Mr. Fullerton and others, the sum of 28 dollars and 4-90ths:

To John Bates, for 150 camp-kettles, delivered to Clement Biddle, deputy quarter-master general, 200 dollars:

To Jacob Hilzheimer, for expresses to Albany, New-York, Boston, Burlington, &c. between the 11th of May and 13th of August, 1776, and for keeping a continental horse, the sum of 537 dollars and 60-90ths:

To capt. John Thacher, for the pay of his independent company, in the service of the United States, at New-York, under general Lee, 405 dollars and 9-90ths:

To George Haas, for conveying money to Albany, 21 days, at 2 dollars, and expenses of himself, horse-hire and ferriages, 100 dollars and 71-90ths, and for carriage of captain Gamble's baggage from Philadelphia to Reading, 16 dollars; the whole 116 dollars and 71-90ths:

To Robert Jewell, 333 dollars and 62-90ths, viz. for his account for entertaining prisoners in gaol, from the 23d of July to the 20th of August, inclusive, 234 dollars and 60-90ths; for his account for entertaining ten deserters, from the 23d of July to the 20th of August, 42 dollars and 85-90ths, and his account for making three pine tables, two pine desks, a book case, sign-board, &c. for treasury board, 61 dollars and 69-90ths:

To William Clayton, for 303 meals of victuals supplied the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 30 dollars and 27-90ths:

To Thomas Cheesman, for carriage of 32 cwt. 1 lb. 3 qrs. salt petre, from Egg-harbor to Cooper's ferry, opposite to Philadelphia, 22 dollars and 52-90ths:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *August 31*, 1776.

A letter, of the 25th, from major-general Schuyler at Albany, was laid before Congress, and read.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, *September 2*, 1776.

A letter, of the 31st of August, from general Washington, enclosing the determination of a council of war, and the reasons for quitting Long-Island, and a copy of a letter from lord Sterling:

Also, one of the 23d, from general Gates, with sundry papers enclosed; one from sundry field officers in the army at Ticonderoga, dated the 19th of August, with the proceedings between a court-martial and brigadier-general Arnold:

Also, a letter of the 23d, from captain John Nelson, and one from Benjamin Harrison, jun. deputy pay-master general, with his weekly account, were read, and referred to the board of war.

Congress being informed, that gen. Sullivan was come to Philadelphia, with a design to communicate a message from lord Howe,

*Ordered*, That he be admitted, and heard before Congress.

A petition from Michael Fitzgerald; one from John Weitzel, and one from James Paul Govert, were read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from Peter Dicterhy was read, and referred to the medical committee.

A letter from William Bausman, of Lancaster, was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That an order for 1333 1-3 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the committee of Lancaster, for defraying the expenses of the barracks ordered to be built in that borough; the said committee to be accountable.

**Resolved**, That an order for 4577 63-90 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of Francis Lewis, esq. and charged to the account of Jonathan Trumbull, deputy pay-master general; the same being for so much paid by Mr. Lewis's order to the said J. Trumbull.

A memorial from Francis Guillot was read, and referred to the marine committee.

The committee to whom was recommitted the report for ascertaining the value of the several species of gold and silver coins current in these states, brought in their report, which was read :

**Ordered**, To lie on the table.

A petition from the officers of the 1st and 2d Virginia battalion, was read and referred to the board of war.

**Resolved**, That an order for 30,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of J. Mease, for the public service; he to be accountable.

General Sullivan being admitted, delivered a verbal message he had in writing from lord Howe, which he was desired to reduce to writing, and then withdrew.

**Resolved**, That an order for 120,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of the delegates of Rhode-Island, and charged to the account of that state, to be accounted for.

Congress being informed that Donald McDonald, who was sent to this city from North-Carolina, is considered by lord Howe as a brigadier-general in the service of his Britannic majesty :

**Resolved**, That he be admitted to his parole, and liberated upon signing the terms prescribed by Congress.

A petition from Anthony Mosengill, was read, and referred to the assembly of the state of New-Jersey.

**Resolved**, That the board of war be directed to prepare and bring in a plan of military operations for the next campaign.

**Resolved**, That the continental agents be empowered to inspect or appoint any suitable person or persons, to inspect all gun-powder manufactured or purchased in, or imported into the respective states, wherein they reside, on account of the United States; except in those states where an inspector is appointed by Congress.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Robert Erwin, wagon-master, for the hire of wagons going to Egg-harbor for powder, viz. Adam Weaver, Joseph Champeney, Michael Grossman, Israel Jacob Hindman and George Raser, one trip each, and David Boxe, William Park and Alexander Miller, two trips each, making twelve trips, allowing three days to each, at 4 dollars a day, 240 dollars :

To captain James Sterling, 664 14-90 dollars, being the balance of his account for the expense of a guard appointed to convey a number of British prisoners from Burlington to Lancaster, and Frederick county in Maryland, a wagon and horse-hire, amounting to 1464 14-90 dollars, of which sum he received from the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and for which they were to be credited, July 16th, 1776, 100 dollars; July 17th, 1776, 700 dollars, there remains 664 14-90 dollars :

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, September 3, 1776.

A memorial from colonel Moses Hazen was read and referred to the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada.

General Sullivan having reduced to writing the verbal message from lord Howe, the same was read as follows :

"The following is the purport of the message from lord Howe to Congress, by general Sullivan:

"That, though he could not at present treat with Congress as such, yet he was very desirous of having a conference with some of the members, whom he would consider for the present only as private gentlemen, and meet them himself as such, at such place as they should appoint:

"That he, in conjunction with general Howe, had full powers to compromise the dispute between Great-Britain and America, upon terms advantageous to both; the obtaining of which delayed him near two months in England, and prevented his arrival at this place before the declaration of independency took place:

"That he wished a compact might be settled at this time, when no decisive blow was struck, and neither party could say, that they were compelled to enter into such agreement:

"That, in case Congress were disposed to treat, many things, which they had not as yet asked, might and ought to be granted them; and that, if, upon the conference, they found any probable ground of accommodation, the authority of Congress must be afterwards acknowledged, otherwise the compact would not be complete."

The board of war brought in a report, which was read:

*Resolved*, That the part of the said report, which relates to the establishing a post between Philadelphia and Ticonderoga, be referred to the committee for regulating the post-office, and that the remainder of the report lie on the table:

That two members be added to the said committee:

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper and Mr. Huntington.

Congress proceeded to the election of a regimental pay-master to colonel Magaw's battalion; and, the ballots being taken,

John Mifflin, brother to brigadier-general Mifflin, was elected.

*Resolved*, That Jeduthun Baldwin, esq. be appointed an engineer in the continental army, with the rank of colonel, and pay of 60 dollars a month.

A letter from a number of officers who are prisoners at Carlisle, was read, complaining of some ill treatment they have received, and of their baggage having been plundered, contrary to the capitulation, upon which they surrendered.

General Wooster, who happened to be in the puter room, being examined touching the facts stated in the said letter;

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to general Schuyler, directing him to make particular enquiry whether the baggage of the officers taken at St. John's and Chambly was plundered, and by whom, and report to Congress:

That the secretary of the board of war be directed to inform the officers, that enquiry has been made of general Wooster, to whom they refer, respecting the plunder of their baggage, and that he says he knows nothing of the matter, and that no information or complaint was ever made to him respecting that matter: And farther, to inform them, that Congress have given orders to general Schuyler to cause strict enquiry to be made into this affair, and report thereon.

A letter, of the 2d, from general Washington, and one from William Paley, pay-master general, were read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Washington be referred to a committee of the whole Congress:

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to report.

The resolutions from the committee of the whole, being severally read, were agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That general Washington be acquainted, that Congress would

the especial care taken, in case he should find it necessary to quit New-York, that no damage be done to the said city by his troops, on their leaving it: The Congress having no doubt of being able to recover the same, though the enemy should, for a time, obtain possession of it.

*Resolved*, That three more battalions be ordered from Virginia, of which that commanded by colonel Stephen to be one, to reinforce the army at New-York: That for the same purpose, two of the North-Carolina battalions be ordered to march, with all possible expedition, to New-York, under the command of brigadier-general Moore:

That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the several states to the northward of Virginia, immediately to send all the aid in their power to the army at New-York:

That one of the continental battalions in Rhode-Island be ordered immediately to march, to reinforce the army at New-York:

That it be recommended to the assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, to send to Rhode-Island a battalion of their militia, to supply the place of the continental battalion ordered from thence.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *September 4, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to pay the Virginia battalion, now on their march to New-York, one month's pay, and to supply them with such necessary clothing as they may stand in need of.

*Resolved*, That another brigadier-general be appointed in the continental army:

The ballots being taken, colonel Adam Stephen was unanimously elected.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to call in the several recruit-parties of the German battalion, and to have them formed and armed, with all possible expedition, and forwarded to New-York, taking measures, and giving proper directions to have the battalion recruited to the full complement, as soon as the same can conveniently be done.

*Resolved*, That the proposal made by general Howe, as delivered by general Sullivan, of exchanging general Sullivan for general Prescott, and lord Sterling for brigadier-general M'Donald, be complied with.

Mr. J. Mease having, in consequence of the resolution of the 30th August, made a report, that he cannot find there is any cloth in this city, fit for making tents, except a parcel of light sail-cloth, which is in the hands of the marine committee:

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to deliver to Mr. J. Mease the light sail-cloth in their possession: And that Mr. Mease be directed to have the same made into tents, as soon as possible, and forwarded to general Washington:

That the secret committee be directed to write to the continental agents in the eastern states, desiring them to purchase all the duck and other cloth fit for tents, which they can procure in their respective states, for the use of the continent.

Congress took into consideration the report of the board of war; and, after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### THURSDAY, *September 5, 1776.*

A petition from John Shott was read, and referred to the board of war.

Congress proceeded to the election of an adjutant for the battalion to be raised in Westmoreland county; and, the ballots being taken, Michael Hoofnagel was elected.

A petition from Charles Roberts, master of the schooner Thistle, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Stockton, Mr. Stone, Mr. F. L. Mr. Penn, and Mr. Walton, be appointed members of the committee on the cause of the miscarriages in Canada, in the room of those who are absent.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee appointed the 24th of July last, to consider the proposal made by the president of Carolina, respecting general Lee, in the room of those who are absent.

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Walton.

*Resolved*, That an order for 1600 dollars be drawn on the treasury of David S. Franks; for which he is to account on the settlement of his account.

The state of Rhode-Island having recommended sundry gentlemen as officers of the two battalions raised in that state, Congress proceeded to election: when William Richmond and Christopher Lippit were elected colonels; Caleb Gardner and Adam Comstock, lieutenant-colonels; Benjamin Tallman and James Tew, majors.

*Resolved*, That the battalion commanded by colonel Lippit be ordered to New-York, unless that commanded by colonel Richmond has already arrived.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to deliver to the delegates from Maryland, three pieces of coarse cloths, for the use of the Maryland delegates; the said delegates to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Risberg, assistant to colonel Biddle, be directed to take proper measures for providing the sick soldiers in Philadelphia, with proper lodgings and attendance.

A letter from brigadier-general M'Donald to the board of war, was read. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That he be allowed four days to prepare for his journey.

That a copy of that part of his letter, respecting his treatment in Carolina, be sent to the convention of that state.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the resolutions passed by Congress on the 1st brought by general Sullivan, and the names of the committee appointed, be sent to general Washington.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Richard Welsh, for his services as clerk, for delivering stores and provisions in Canada, certified by Henry Menson, in which service he was employed the 24th of April, and was discharged the 7th of June, 1776, at 50-90 dollars per day, 25 dollars:

To Casper Carver, for the hire of a team from York-town, in Pennsylvania, to Williamsburg, in Virginia, 16 days, at 4 dollars a day, 64 dollars; and for ferriages, 6 6-90 dollars, and for the hire of another team from York-town with captain Grier's company, 14 days, at 4 dollars a day, and for ferriage, 3 54-90 dollars; the whole being 129 60-90 dollars:

To John Sparhawk, for two maps, a court-calendar, &c. for the war, as per R. Peters's certificate, 10 60-90 dollars:

To John Bates, for 200 camp-kettles, delivered to C. Biddle, deputy quarter-master general, the 2d instant, 266 60-90 dollars:

To the following persons, for which a warrant is to be drawn in favor of Mons. Rouville, for the sum of 788 10-90 dollars, the amount of his several accounts, viz.

1. To hostages sent by general Schuyler to Reading, in Pennsylvania, namely; Allan M'Donald, sen. Allan M'Donald, jun. Alexander M'Donald, Benj. M'Donald, and Archibald M'Donald, their allowance from the 4th of June to the 3d of September, both days inclusive, is 13 weeks, at 2 dollars each.

re, 130 dollars, and for Angus M'Donald and George M'Donald, two  
13 weeks each, at one dollar a week, 26 dollars; of which they have  
from the committee of Reading, 27 3-90 dollars; the balance is  
10 dollars:

lieutenant Simon Evans, a prisoner sent from Canada to Reading, for  
from Montreal to Albany, 12 dollars; and allowance from the 10th  
ary, to the 23d of August, inclusive, is 28 weeks, at 2 dollars a week,  
s; the whole 68 dollars; of which he received from the committee of  
for 13 weeks' allowance, 26 dollars; leaves a balance due to lieutenant  
of 42 dollars:

captain Anstruther, of the 26th regiment, for his allowance from the  
November, to the 23d of August, both days inclusive, is 40 weeks, at  
a week, 80 dollars:

Marcus Lucullus Royal, master of the Gaspee, taken the 19th of  
er, in the river St. Lawrence, for his allowance to the 22d of August,  
eks and 4-7ths, at 2 dollars a week, 79 dollars and 13-90ths; of which  
received from the committee of Esopus, 44 dollars; the balance due to  
5 dollars and 13-90ths.

the Canadian prisoners at Bristol, viz. Mons. St. Ours Hervieux,  
ont, de Chambault and la Marque, from the 3d of November, the time  
re taken, to the 30th of August, inclusive, 44 weeks each, at 2 dollars,  
lars:

George M'Kenzie, mate of the sloop Hunter, taken the 4th of No-  
to the 25th of August, inclusive, is 42 weeks, at 2 dollars, 84 dollars;  
h he has received at Albany, 12 dollars; the balance is 72 dollars:

the following persons, 564 dollars and 85-90ths, namely, to Adam Drink-  
or his team from Philadelphia to Fredericksburg, in Virginia, 29 days,  
llars, and ferriage 7 dollars, is 123 dollars; to Martin Hausman, Ber-  
eppelear and Nathaniel Hoop, who went on the same journey with their  
each 123 dollars, is 369 dollars; and, to Matthias Koop, for the hire of  
on from Philadelphia to Bergen Point, with powder, 9 days, at 4 dollars,  
riage, 2 dollars and 35-90ths, is 38 dollars and 35-90ths; and to An-  
lead, for the hire of his wagon from Philadelphia to New-York, with  
nes, 8 days, at 4 dollars a day, and ferriage, 2 dollars and 50-90ths, is  
ars and 50-90ths, and that the same ought to be paid to Robert Erwin,  
-master general:

Joseph Hewes, esq. for cash advanced to the guard going with five wa-  
North-Carolina, with wagon-hire, and casks for powder, 140 dollars  
-90ths:

John Dennis, for escorting powder from Egg-harbor to Philadelphia, by  
of the secret committee, 35 dollars and 23-90ths.

col. Jonas Clapham, for 53 rifle-guns bought of him for the use of col.  
son's rifle-battalion, in Virginia, 896 dollars and 52-90ths; which sum  
e charged to the said battalion:

ered, That the above accounts be paid.

gress resumed the consideration of the report of the board of war;  
eupon,

olved, That all letters to and from the board of war and ordnance, or  
cretary of the same, be free of all expense in the post-office of the United

board having reported, that they have considered the petition of Jere-  
Halsey, and perused his written evidence, are of opinion, that the said  
y ought to receive the arrears of his pay, and that the resolution of Con-  
of the 9th of January last, be repealed: as it appears, that the said Hal-  
as discharged from the service, upon a regular certificate from the surgeon,  
commanding officer at St. John's, on account of sickness, on the 13th

day of November last, in pursuance of the order of general Montgomery; the Congress agreed to the said report.

Congress proceeded to fill up the vacancies in the second Pennsylvania battalion; and, the ballots being taken, Joseph Wood, esq. was elected colonel; Thomas Craig, esq. was elected lieutenant-colonel, and William Butler, esq. major.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, September 9, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That four months' pay, being 106 dollars and 2-3ds, be advanced to Mons. la Marquisie, captain and engineer in the northern army; he to be accountable.

A letter, of the 6th, from general Washington, was read and referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general, for the use of the army at New-York.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to hear the parties on the appeal against the verdict and sentence of condemnation passed against the schooner Thistle and her cargo.

The members chosen, Mr. Stockton, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Stone.

*Resolved*, That in all continental commissions, and other instruments, where, heretofore, the words "United Colonies" have been used, the stile be altered, for the future, to the "United States."

The board of war brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

A memorial from Mons. Pannelier de la Falconniere, was read, and referred to the marine committee.

Congress proceeded to the election of a quarter-master for the German battalion; and, the ballots being taken,

Frederick Seeger was elected.

*Resolved*, That an order for 136 dollars be drawn on the treasury, in favor of George Meade & Co. and charged to the account of Messrs. Chase & Carroll, it being in full of their bill, in favor of John Vienne, or order, dated at Montreal, May 28, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be empowered to pay the draughts of captain John Douglass, for such parts of the monthly pay of the privates in his company, as he shall specify, and the same, as paid, be charged to the account of the said captain.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due to William Smith, continental druggist, 2490 dollars and 13-90ths:

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

Three petitions, one from Pierre du Calvert, another from Jaques Pileur, and the third from Andre Pepin, were read, and referred to the board of war.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, September 10, 1776.**

A letter, of the 8th, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, was read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the president inform general Washington, it was by no means the sense of Congress, in their resolve of the 3d inst. respecting New-York, that the army, or any part of it, should remain in that city a moment longer than he shall think it proper for the public service that troops be continued there:

That the letter from the general be referred to the board of war.

er, of the 31st of August, from the commissioners of Indian affairs, at 5, was read, and referred to the standing committee for Indian affairs.  
**Resolved**, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to supply captain West, of the rifle-men, with 40 blankets.  
 tion from Jean Longeay, and two from Seth Warner, with sundry papers enclosed, were read.  
**Resolved**, That the petitions from colonel Warner, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the commissioners appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the army in the northern department.  
 ter of the 8th, from M. Tilghman, was read.  
 ess took into consideration the report of the board of war, and after debate thereon,  
**Resolved**, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the said report.  
**Resolved**, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to supply the delegates of Maryland with 40 blankets for the use of the troops from that state.  
**Resolved**, That 4,000 dollars be sent to Zebulon Butler, esq. for the use of companies ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland; he to be accountable for the same, and that the money be delivered to and forwarded to the Connecticut delegates:  
 major William Judd be authorized to muster the said companies.  
 adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *September 11, 1776.*

**Resolved**, That an order for 60,000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of Mr. J. Mease, commissary for the public service; he to be accountable.  
 ter, of the 7th, from Joseph Trumbull, esq. commissary-general, with papers enclosed, was read:  
**Resolved**, That it be referred to a committee of three, and that they be directed and empowered to enquire into the conduct of Mr. Livingston, deputy commissary-general in the northern department:  
 members chosen, Mr. Lee, Mr. Hooper and Mr. Sherman.  
**Resolved**, That Mr. J. Mease, commissary, be directed to provide clothing and other necessaries, for the first Virginia battalion, now on their march to New York.  
 memorial from Stephen Pater de la Cossade was read, and referred to the committee:  
 a memorial from Seth Warner, and one from captains Waite Hopkins and Leon Brownson, of colonel Warner's battalion, were read, and referred to the board of war.  
**Resolved**, That a member be added to the board of war, in the room of colonel Harrison:  
 member chosen, Mr. F. L. Lee.  
 Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the board of war; and, after some time, the president returned to the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and made some amendments thereon: not having had time to go through the whole, desired leave to sit again.  
**Resolved**, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the board of war.  
 matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *September 12, 1776.*

letter of the 31st of August, from Joseph Wentworth to the secretary of Congress, with an appeal from the verdict and sentence passed on the trial of the brigantine named the Elizabeth, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee for Indian affairs, to whom the letter, of the 31st of August, from the commissioners in the middle department, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That two tons of powder and four tons of lead be immediately sent to Pittsburg; to be disposed of as the commissioners shall direct:

That the resolution of Congress, respecting the destination of the battalion commanded by colonel M'Coy, be suspended, and that the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department be empowered, during their stay at Pittsburg, to direct the operations of that battalion:

That the measures adopted by the commissioners, in the present critical situation of Indian affairs, is approved of by Congress, who have the greatest confidence in the prudence and vigilance of their future conduct.

*Resolved*, That an order for 7000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer, in favor of colonel M'Coy, for the use of his battalion; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That application be made to the committee of Pennsylvania, for 10,000 flints to be delivered to George Morgan, esq.

The committee, to whom the letter from Joseph Trumbull, esq. with the papers enclosed, was referred, reported,

"That having considered the same, and recurring to the journal of Congress, on Mr. Trumbull's appointment to the commissariat, find the following resolve on the 8th of July, 1776: "That the commissary-general have full power to supply both armies, that upon the lakes as well as that at New-York, and also to appoint and employ such persons under him, and to remove any deputy-commissary, as he shall judge proper and expedient; it being absolutely necessary, that the supply of both armies should be under one direction;" Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the above resolution is so clear and explicit, and so well contrived to procure the due and proper discharge of the commissary's business, that the same ought to be adhered to, and immediately transmitted to the commanding officer in the northern department, and to the commissary-general, as the full sense of Congress on the commissary-general's right to direct the operations of his department, both as contractor and issuer of provisions; and that Mr. Trumbull be informed, Congress expect this will remove his difficulties, and induce his continuance in the office of commissary for both armies, at New-York, and on the lakes.

Congress then proceeded to the election of sundry officers; and the ballots being taken,

David M'Clure was elected chaplain, and Ephraim Douglass quarter-master of the battalion commanded by colonel M'Coy.

John Trumbull, esq. was elected deputy adjutant-general of the army in the northern department, and Morgan Lewis, esq. deputy quarter-master general of the said army.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to order the French officers, who have received commissions from Congress, to repair immediately to the places of their destination.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to pay the first battalion of Virginia troops, on their march to New-York, the arrears due to them.

The committee of treasury, to whom the petition of George Nicholson was referred, returned the same, and reported, that it ought to be referred to the board of war:

*Resolved*, That the said petition be referred to the board of war.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, As it appears from colonel Warner's representation of the state of his regiment, that major Painter's appointment much obstructs the raising the said regiment, that, therefore, major Painter be directed to repair to the city of Philadelphia, that the matter may be enquired into, and that it be recommend-

to colonel Warner and the other officers, that they forthwith proceed to re-equip their men and complete the regiment, relying on the justice of Congress in the settlement of the uneasiness among them:  
That the militia at New-York, be paid by the pay-master general there, be discharged.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be re-committed.

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the report of the board of war; and after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee had under consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desire leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the board of war.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to deliver such a number of muskets, as he has, belonging to the continent, to captain Watkins, for the use of his company, which is enlisted to serve during the war, not exceeding one to each man.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *September 13, 1776.*

Two letters, of the 7th and 11th, from general Washington; one of the 8th from general Green, and a resolution of the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, of the 13th, were read, and referred to the board of war.

The committee appointed to confer with lord Howe, having returned, made a verbal report.

*Ordered*, That they make a report in writing, as soon as conveniently they can.

The committee of the treasury reported, that there is due,

To Peter Baker for 1149 rations, supplied colonel Peter Grubb's battalion of militia, and 204 meals to different companies of militia, on their march to New-York, 123 19-90 dollars:

To John Bates for 266 camp-kettles, delivered to Gustavus Risburg, assistant to the deputy quarter-master general for the flying-camp, 354 60-90 dollars:

To Richard Cheny for 291 meals supplied the militia on their march to New-York, 29 9-90 dollars:

To Charles Ford for ten weeks' board, lodging, and washing, for William Smith, a wounded serjeant, from the 8th June to 17th August, 10 weeks, at 13 dollars per week, 13 30-90 dollars:

To major Regonville, capt. Duchene, lieut. Smith, and lieut. Demuraux, Canadian prisoners, for their allowance from 3d November, 1775, to 6th September, 1776, inclusive, is 44 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 352 dollars, and that they be paid to Mons. Regonville:

To Robert Towers, for artillery stores for two three-pound travelling cannon, ordered by Joseph Hewes, esq. for the state of North-Carolina, 72 64-90 dollars;

To Graaf, M'Clenachan, Hollingsworth, and Grigson, for which a warrant is to be drawn in favor of the hon. Thomas Lynch, esq. for his expenses to and from Williamsburg, with the hire of a wagon, with money for South-Carolina, 32-90 dollars:

To Joseph Beck going express from Philadelphia to Virginia, 340 miles, at 16 cents of a dollar, 56 dollars:

To Michael Millenberger, for five days' use of his two-horse wagons, in transporting the sick troops in New-Jersey, of captain Brown's company, 30-90 dollars:

To Frederick Bicking, for 221 reams of paper for continental currency, at 64-90 dollars a ream, 1532 24-90 dollars:

To William Clayton, for 338 meals of victuals, supplied the militia on their march to New-Jersey, \$2 72-90 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Two letters of the 8th, from general Schuyler, with sundry papers enclosed; one of the 7th, from Walter Livingston, and one of the 12th of August, from brigadier-general Armstrong, were read :

*Ordered*, That the foregoing letters, with the papers enclosed in that from general Schuyler, except what relates to general Montgomery's accounts, be referred to the board of war, and that the papers relative to the said accounts be referred to the board of treasury.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the report of the board of war; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter referred to them, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the board of war.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, September 14, 1776.

A letter from R. H. Harrison, secretary to general Washington, was read.

Four French officers, who arrived in the Reprisal, captain Weeks, being recommended to Congress,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the officers of militia, when on their march, and while in service, be allowed rations like the officers on the continental establishment, without any allowance of mileage :

That the commander in chief in the northern army be directed to erect barracks, and other accommodations, in the most convenient places in that department, and provide magazines of straw, fuel, and other necessities for winter-quarters, for such number of troops as he shall think proper :

That general Schuyler be informed that his letter of the 16th of last month was duly received, and referred to the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada :

That captain Martindale and lieutenant Turner be allowed their pay and rations to this time, and that they be referred to the treasury-board for a settlement of their accounts :

That 15 tons of powder, 20,000 flints, ten tons of lead, and 100 reams of cartridge-paper, be immediately sent to general Gates, for the use of the army in the northern department :

That brigadier-general Armstrong have leave to return from South-Carolina to Philadelphia :

That deputy-commissary Livingston's resignation be accepted :

That captains Wait Hopkins and Gideon Brownson be referred to the commissioners appointed to audit accounts in the northern department, for a settlement of their accounts :

That all continental troops and militia, going home from service, restore all continental arms and other property, and also all ammunition remaining in their possession, at the time of their being about to return. Their pay to be withheld unless they produce certificates from the commissary of stores, or quarter-master general, or their deputies in the department where such continental troops or militia shall serve. And, if any continental property, or ammunition be carried away by the militia, before this resolve, stoppages to be made from such as have not received their pay, and that measures be taken with

those who have been paid by the councils of safety, or legislatures of each state, for the restoration of such continental property and ammunition.

A memorial from Jonathan Glover was read, and referred to the marine committee.

A letter of the 9th, from general Lee to the board of war, was laid before Congress and read.

A petition from captains Joseph Gardner, James M'Dowell, John M'Dowell, Samuel Evans, Ephraim Blackburn, and Stephen Cochran, was read.

*Resolved*, That 25,000 dollars be advanced to the state of Maryland, which is to be accountable for the same.

The committees of Westmoreland and Bedford, having, in pursuance of the resolution of Congress of the 15th July, recommended Van Swearingan, Moses Carson, Samuel Miller, James Piggot, Wendal Oury, David Killgore, Eliezer Miers, and Andrew Mann, for captains in the regiment commanded by colonel M'Coy; and Robert Mosely, John Finley, Matthew Jack, Ezekiel Hickman, Richard Carson, William M. Greary, James M'Dowell, and Thomas Cook, for first lieutenants; William Thompson, Alexander Sumrall, James Guthery, Philip Rodgers, Samuel Smith, William Mountz, James Buler, jun. and John Crawford, for second lieutenants; Benjamin Neely, Joseph Kerr, John Sims, David Wherry, Devalt Mecklin, Feolty Weaver, John Read, and Aquila White, for ensigns in the said battalion:

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Whereas the delegates of South-Carolina have represented, that, by an arrangement made by Congress, on the 18th day of June last, the regiment of artillery and two regiments of riflemen, raised in that province, will obtain precedence over a regiment of rangers, though the latter was raised before either of the former, which may be attended with consequences extremely prejudicial to the service: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said regiment of rangers, commanded by colonel William Thompson, do still keep the same station it had in the provincial arrangement, and be entitled to rank in the same way as other regiments in the continental service.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, *September* 16, 1776.

A letter, of the 14th, from general Washington, one of the 9th, from general Schuyler, enclosing a copy of one from general Gates, dated the 6th, and one, of the 2d, from general Gates, with sundry papers enclosed, were read, and referred to the board of war.

A letter, of the 2d, from general Schuyler, was also read:

*Ordered*, That this be referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

There being sundry vacancies in colonel Warner's battalion, Congress proceeded to the election of officers to fill up the same; and, the ballots being taken,

John Fasset and ——— M'Une were elected captains in the room of John Grant and Jacob Vorsborough, who have declined to accept their commissions, on account of their ill-state of health;

Joseph Safford, Thomas Ranson, John Chipman, and Robert Terrence, first lieutenants in the room of ——— Dean, deceased, Woolbridge and Allen who decline serving, and J. Fassett promoted; Benjamin Hopkins, adjutant.

*Resolved*, That there be an addition of three brigadiers-general in the continental army, and that Congress proceed immediately to the choice:

The ballots being taken, Christopher Gadsden, William Moultrie, and Lachlan M'Intosh, were elected.

A letter, of the 31st of August, from brigadier-general Lewis, and one of

the 30th of the same month from William Rickman, director of the board in the southern department, were read :

**Ordered,** That the letter from W. Rickman, be referred to the select committee.

**Resolved,** That 50,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Georgia, for the use of the continental troops in that state, the said delegates to be accountable.

**Resolved,** That to-morrow be assigned for appointing commissioners to audit the public accounts in Virginia.

It being represented by the delegates of North-Carolina, that, from her accounts, it appears, that the situation of affairs in that state is such, as to render it dangerous, if not impracticable, to execute the resolution of Congress, 12th 3d instant, ordering two of the North-Carolina battalions, under the command of brigadier-general Moore, to march to reinforce the army at New-England. Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That it be left to the discretion of the council of safety of North-Carolina, to execute or suspend that resolution, according as they shall judge it most conducive to the public service, and the safety of their particular state.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the report of the board of war; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee had under consideration the report from the board of war, and have made a dry amendments, which they ordered him to lay before Congress :

Congress then took into consideration the report of the board of war, and the amendments offered by the committee of the whole ; and, thereupon, resolved to the following resolutions :

That eighty-eight battalions be enlisted as soon as possible, to serve during the present war, and that each state furnish their respective quotas in the following proportions, viz.

New-Hampshire,	-	3 battalions.	Delaware,	-	1 battalion.
Massachusetts-Bay,	-	15 do.	Maryland,	-	8 do.
Rhode-Island,	-	2 do.	Virginia	-	15 do.
Connecticut,	-	8 do.	North-Carolina,	-	9 do.
New-York,	-	4 do.	South-Carolina,	-	6 do.
New-Jersey,	-	4 do.	Georgia,	-	1 do.
Pennsylvania,	-	12 do.			

That twenty dollars be given as a bounty to each non-commissioned officer and private soldier, who shall enlist to serve during the present war, as soon as discharged by Congress :

That Congress make provision for granting lands, in the following proportions : to the officers and soldiers who shall so engage in the service, and continue therein to the close of the war, or until discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such officers and soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy.

Such lands to be provided by the United States, and whatever expense shall be necessary to procure such land, the said expense shall be paid and borne by the states in the same proportion as the other expenses of the war, viz.

To a colonel, 500 acres ; to a lieutenant-colonel, 450 ; to a major, 400 ; to a captain, 300 ; to a lieutenant, 200 ; to an ensign, 150 ; each non-commissioned officer and soldier, 100 :

That the appointment of all officers, and filling up vacancies, (excepting general officers) be left to the governments of the several states, and that every state provide arms, clothing, and every necessary for its quota of troops, according to the foregoing estimate : The expense of the clothing to be deducted from the pay of the soldiers, as usual :

That all officers be commissioned by Congress :

That it be recommended to the several states, that they take the most speedy and effectual measures for enlisting their several quotas :

That the money to be given for bounties be paid by the pay-master in the department where the soldier shall enlist:

That each soldier receive pay and subsistence from the time of enlistment.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Adam Zantzinger, for the expense of five light-horse escorting money to New-York, and one from thence to Albany, 94 64-90 dollars:

To John Bates, for 300 camp-kettles delivered to Gustavus Risberg, 400 dollars:

To Philip Baker, for 289 meals of victuals, supplied captains Grier and Nelson's companies of continental troops, 18 31-90 dollars:

To David Tryon, William Green, Peter Peterson, George Landers, and Samuel Brush, for the hire of their shallops, with continental troops and baggage, from Wilmington to Trenton, 104 dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration the articles of war.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, *September* 17, 1776.

A letter of the 23d of August, from V. De Coetry Prejent, was read, and referred to the marine committee.

The state of Maryland having recommended Thomas Beale, esq. to be captain; Peter Contee Hanson first-lieutenant; James Lingan second-lieutenant, and Richard Dorsey third-lieutenant, in colonel Stevenson's battalion; and Elijah Evans to be a third-lieutenant in the said battalion, in the room of Henry Hardman, who has resigned,

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and commissions granted to them accordingly.

The committee appointed to confer with lord Howe, agreeable to the order of Congress, brought in a report in writing, which was read as follows:

"In obedience to the orders of Congress, we have had a meeting with lord Howe. It was on Wednesday last, upon Staten-island, opposite to Amboy, where his lordship received and entertained us with the utmost politeness.

"His lordship opened the conversation, by acquainting us, that, though he could not treat with us as a committee of Congress, yet, as his powers enabled him to confer and consult with any private gentlemen of influence in the colonies, on the means of restoring peace between the two countries, he was glad of this opportunity of conferring with us on that subject, if we thought ourselves at liberty to enter into a conference with him in that character. We observed to his lordship, that, as our business was to hear, he might consider us in what light he pleased, and communicate to us any propositions he might be authorized to make for the purpose mentioned; but that we could consider ourselves in no other character than that in which we were placed, by order of Congress. His lordship then entered into a discourse of a considerable length, which contained no explicit proposition of peace, except one, namely, that the colonies should return to their allegiance and obedience to the government of Great-Britain. The rest consisted principally of assurances, that there was an exceeding good disposition in the king and his ministers to make that government easy to us, with intimations, that, in case of our submission, they would cause the offensive acts of parliament to be revised, and the instructions to governors to be reconsidered; that so, if any just causes of complaint were found in the acts, or any errors in government were perceived to have crept into the instructions, they might be amended or withdrawn.

"We gave it as our opinion to his lordship, that a return to the domination of Great-Britain was not now to be expected. We mentioned the re-

peated humble petitions of the colonies to the king and parliament, we been treated with contempt, and answered only by additional injuries. unexampled patience we had shown under their tyrannical government that it was not till the late act of parliament which denounced war against us and put us out of the king's protection, that we declared our independence; that this declaration had been called for by the people of the colonies in general; that every colony had approved of it, when made, and all considered themselves as independent states, and were settling, or had settled governments accordingly; so, that it was not in the power of Congress to agree for them, that they should return to their former dependent state. there was no doubt of their inclination to peace, and their willingness to enter into a treaty with Great-Britain, that might be advantageous to both. that though his lordship had, at present, no power to treat with these independent states, he might, if there was the same good disposition in them, much sooner obtain fresh powers from thence, for that purpose, than could be obtained by Congress, from the several colonies, to consent to such a mission.

"His lordship then saying, that he was sorry to find, that no accommodation was like to take place, put an end to the conference.

"Upon the whole, it did not appear to your committee, that his lordship's commission contained any other authority than that expressed in the act of parliament, namely, that of granting pardons, with such exceptions as the commissioners shall think proper to make, and of declaring America, or any part of it, to be in the king's peace, upon submission; For, as to the power of enquiring into the state of America, which his lordship mentioned to us, as conferring and consulting with any persons the commissioners might think proper, and representing the result of such conversation to the ministry, provided the colonies would subject themselves, might, after all, or might at their pleasure, make any alterations in the former instructions to the commissioners, or propose in parliament, any amendment of the acts complained of, we apprehended any expectation from the effect of such a power would have been very uncertain and precarious to be relied on by America, had she still continued in her state of dependence."

*Ordered*, That the foregoing report, and also the message from his lordship as delivered by general Sullivan, and the resolution of Congress in consequence thereof, be published by the committee who brought in the foregoing report.

*Ordered*, That the said committee publish lord Drummond's letter to the commissioners at Washington, and the general's answers.

Sundry resolutions being moved and seconded, in addition to those passed yesterday, relative to the new army: after debate,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

A letter of the 10th, from brigadier-general Lewis was read; also a letter from James Forrest was read, and referred to the board of war.

Congress took into consideration the plan of treaties to be proposed to foreign nations, with the amendments agreed to by the committee of the whole. the same was agreed to.

A letter, of the 16th, from general Washington, was received and read.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the instructions to be given to the commissioners to foreign states, be postponed till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That 1066 2-3 dollars be advanced to Robert Erwin, quartermaster general.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed, after arming the first battalion, to arm the Maryland company on its march to New-York, and the remainder, or with as many arms as shall then be in their possession, being sent to the continent.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## JOURNALS OF CONGRESS, 1776.

WEDNESDAY, *September 18, 1776.*

Letter of the 16th, from R. Dallam, deputy pay-master general was read. Board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; upon,

*Resolved*, That if rations be received by the officers or privates in the continental army, in money, they be paid at the rate of 8-90ths of a dollar per ration:

Monsieur Jacques Paul Govert have the rank and pay of a captain-lieu-tenant of artillery in the continental army, and that a commission be given to him accordingly:

the medical committee send an assortment of proper medicines to the continental army:

Monsieur Vermonet have the rank and pay of a major by brevet, he be-comes a gentleman of considerable military abilities:

the bounty and grants of land offered by Congress, by a resolution of the 1st instant, as an encouragement to the officers and soldiers to engage to the army of the United States during the war, shall extend to all who shall be enlisted for that term; the bounty of ten dollars, which any soldiers have received from the continent on account of a former enlistment, to be reckoned in part payment of the 20 dollars offered by the said resolution:

no officer in the continental army be allowed to hold more than one commission, or to receive pay but in one capacity at the same time:

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be postponed.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to prepare a resolution for enlarging and perfecting discipline in the army.

*Resolved*, That 1564 45-90 dollars be paid in specie to John Bonfield, and added to the account of brigadier-general Arnold, the same being in full of brigadier-general Arnold's note of the 11th of May last:

an order for 1000 dollars be drawn on the treasurer in favor of the committee appointed to contract for casting cannon; they to be accountable:

the secret committee furnish the said committee with two barrels of powder for proving cannon.

*Resolved*, That captain M'Kenzie, a prisoner in the gaol of Philadelphia, be set at liberty on his parole, the state of his health requiring air and exercise; and he be ordered to Reading, in Pennsylvania, there to reside under the same conditions as other prisoners on their parole.

committee of treasury brought in a report on the ways and means of raising five millions of dollars, which was read:

*Resolved*, To lie on the table.

Congress took into consideration the instructions to the commissioners, and debated,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

turned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *September 19, 1776.*

board of treasury reported, that they have examined the vouchers brought to their office by Joseph Hewes, esq. one of the naval committee, by which it appears, that the naval committee have expended the sum of 134,333 27-90 dollars in fitting out eight armed vessels.

*Resolved*, That the same be allowed and passed to the credit of the said committee.

naval committee having laid before Congress an account of sundry outstanding debts, and of sundry goods by them purchased, and put into the hands of several persons who have not yet accounted for the same,

*Resolved*, That the said account be delivered to the marine committee, and that they be directed to take effectual measures to have the said outstanding debts collected and accounts settled.

*Resolved*, That 66 2-3 dollars be advanced to major le chevalier de Vermonet; he to be accountable:

That major de Vermonet be referred to the board of treasury, for a settlement of his account for rations:

That 100 dollars be advanced to captain William Davies, of Virginia, for the use of his company on their march to New-York, he to be accountable.

A petition from captain Woelper, was read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the delegates of Pennsylvania and Maryland, who are directed to settle the rank of the captains and subalterns in the German battalion, and report to Congress.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mons. Marquis de Malmady be appointed to the rank and pay of a major by brevet in the continental army, and receive a commission accordingly:

That Mons. Jean Louis Imbret, a gentleman well recommended as an engineer, be sent to general Washington to be employed in that capacity, in order to shew his abilities, and that one months' pay as a captain be advanced for his expenses:

That Mons. Christian de Colerus be appointed to the rank and pay of a major by brevet, and that his commission be forthwith given him:

That Mons. Jean Louis de Virnejouz be appointed to the rank and pay of a captain by brevet, and commissioned accordingly:

That the commander in chief of the forces of these states in the several departments, be directed to give positive orders to the brigadier-generals and colonels, and all other officers in their several armies, that the troops, under their command, may, every day, be called together, and trained in arms, in order that officers and men may be perfected in the manual exercise and manœuvres, and inured to the most exemplary discipline, and that all officers be assured, that the Congress will consider activity and success, in introducing discipline into the army, among the best recommendations for promotion.

The commissioners for settling the public accounts in the northern army, having represented to the board of treasury, that sundry officers in the army, holding two commissions, had, previous to the time of general Schuyler's receiving the order of Congress, not to allow pay to any person for more than one commission, received warrants from the general for payment in their double capacity, and desiring to know whether such accounts are to be allowed:

*Resolved*, That such warrants drawn by general Schuyler, previous to the time of his receiving the order of Congress, be allowed by the commissioners:

That, to prevent, for the future, warrants being drawn by any general in the continental army, in favor of any officer, for more than one commission, the order of Congress be published, that no officer in the continental army is allowed to hold more than one commission, or to receive pay but in one capacity.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Henry Brothers, 54 dollars; George Troxsell, 64 dollars and 72-90ths, and Jacob Miller, 60 dollars; the whole amounting to 178 dollars and 72-90ths; to be paid to colonel George Stricker, for the hire of three wagons from Maryland to Philadelphia, with the baggage of two field-officers, and two companies belonging to the German battalion:

To the late colonel Caleb Perry, for provisions supplied the militia on their march to New-Jersey, with their ferriage, and the ferriage of baggage-wagons over Schuylkill, 53 dollars; to be paid to John Jacobs:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

A memorial from the chevalier Dorre, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The committee for Indian affairs brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 66 dollars and 60-90ths be paid to Jacob Fowler, of the Montauk tribe of Indians on Long-Island, for his trouble in going to the Mohawk and Oneida nations of Indians, and for his services whilst he remained amongst them :

That the commanding officers of the several posts, on the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania, be desired to give the earliest intelligence they can, of every important occurrence they may have notice of, respecting the Indians, to the commissioners, or, when they are not in the way, to the agent for Indian affairs :

That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the frontiers, and to the officers at all the posts there, to treat the Indians, who behave peaceably and inoffensively, with kindness and civility, and not to suffer them to be ill-used or insulted :

That 400 dollars be paid to the agent for Indian affairs, in the middle department, for expenditures, and be accounted for by him :

That the orders drawn by the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department, on the committee for Indian affairs, for £ 1104 17 7½, Pennsylvania currency, and for £ 73 0 9, of like money, being 3141 dollars and 10-90ths, the cost of sundry merchandise bought by the agent for the Indians ; the former payable to James Heron, and the other to James Heron and James Bavard, be accepted, and that the money be paid by the treasurer of the United States :

That a talk be delivered to the chiefs and warriors of the Shawanese Indians, now in Philadelphia, to be communicated by them to their nation, in these words :

The United States of America, to their Brethren, the Chiefs and Warriors of the Shawanese Nation.

“ We have heard from you by Mr. Morgan, our agent, and are much pleased with your reception of him into your towns, and with your answers to our messages by him. We expect that you and our commissioners will shortly meet in council at Pittsburg, when we hope our old friendship will be renewed, and such a peace established between us, as will last forever.

“ Our young brothers, Wenthissicia and Pellawa, have visited their white brethren here in company with Mr. Morgan. They can tell you that we keep our roads clear of thorns and briars, and open for all our Indian brethren, who think proper to visit us. We shall always be pleased to see our brothers, the Shawanese, and our brothers of every other Indian nation. We wish to see some of their wise men at our great council-fire, which we preserve bright and clear for all nations.”

As it may be a means of conciliating the friendship of the Canadian Indians, or, at least, of preventing hostilities from them in some measure, to assist the president of Dartmouth college, in New-Hampshire, in maintaining their youth who are now there, under his tuition, and whom the revenues of the college are not, at this time, sufficient to support ; that, for this purpose, 500 dollars be paid to the Rev. Dr. Eleazer Wheelock, president of the said college.

*Resolved*, That the adjutants of regiments in the continental army be allowed the pay and rations of captains, and have the rank of first lieutenants.

Congress resumed the consideration of the articles of war ; and, after some time, the farther consideration thereof was postponed.

*Ordered*, That the secret committee supply the state of New-Jersey with one ton of powder ; the said state to be accountable.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, September 20, 1776.

A letter of the 18th, from general Washington, and one of the 13th, from general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, enclosing sundry papers, were read.  
*Ordered*, That the letter from the assembly of Massachusetts-Bay be referred to the marine committee.

In order to prevent the officers and soldiers, who shall be entitled to the same hereafter to be granted by the resolution of Congress of the 16th, from enjoying of the same, during the war,

*Resolved*, That Congress will not grant lands to any person or persons claiming under the assignment of an officer or soldier.

*Ordered*, That the medical committee forward 300 lb. of Peruvian bark to the southern department, for the use of the troops there.

Congress resumed the consideration of the articles of war, which, debated by paragraphs, were agreed to, as follows :

*Resolved*, That from and after the publication of the following articles, in the respective armies of the United States, the rules and articles by which the armies have heretofore been governed, shall be, and they are, hereby repeated.

### SECTION I.

*Article 1.* That every officer who shall be retained in the army of the United States, shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission, subscribe to the rules and regulations.

*Art 2.* It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers diligently attend divine service : and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently, at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a general court-martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the president ; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit 1-6th of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay ; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit like sum, but be confined for twenty-four hours ; and, for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner ; which money, so forfeited, shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

*Art. 3.* Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article, and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of prophane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay, for each and every such offence, two-thirds of a dollar.

*Art. 4.* Every chaplain who is commissioned to a regiment, company, or garrison, and shall absent himself from the said regiment, company, or garrison, (excepting in case of sickness or leave of absence) shall be brought before a court-martial, and be fined not exceeding one month's pay, besides the deduction of his pay during his absence, or be discharged, as the said court-martial judge most proper.

### SECTION II.

*Art. 1.* Whatsoever officer or soldier shall presume to use traitorous or disrespectful words against the authority of the United States in Congress assembled, or the legislature of any of the United States in which he may be quartered, if a commissioned officer, he shall be cashiered ; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 2.* Any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the general, or other commander in chief of the forces of the United States, or shall speak words tending to his hurt or dishonor, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a court-martial.

*Art. 3.* Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause or join, in a mutiny or sedition, in the troop, company or regiment to which he belongs,

in any other troop or company in the service of the United States, or in any part, post, detachment or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

*Art. 4.* Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who, being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavor to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to his commanding officer, shall be punished by a court-martial with death, or otherwise, according to the nature of the offence.

*Art. 5.* Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful command of his superior officer, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

### SECTION III.

*Art. 1.* Every non-commissioned officer and soldier, who shall enlist himself in the service of the United States, shall at the time of his so enlisting, or within six days afterwards, have the articles for the government of the forces of the United States read to him, and shall, by the officer who enlisted him, or by the commanding officer of the troop or company into which he was enlisted, be taken before the next justice of the peace, or chief magistrate of any city or town-corporate, not being an officer of the army, or, where recourse cannot be had to the civil magistrate, before the judge-advocate, and, in his presence, shall take the following oath, or affirmation, if conscientiously scrupulous about taking an oath:

I swear, or affirm, (as the case may be,) to be true to the United States of America, and to serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever; and to observe and obey the orders of the Continental Congress, and the orders of the generals and officers set over me by them.

Which justice or magistrate is to give the officer a certificate, signifying that the man enlisted, did take the said oath or affirmation.

*Art. 2.* After a non-commissioned officer or soldier shall have been duly enlisted and sworn, he shall not be dismissed the service without a discharge in writing; and no discharge, granted to him, shall be allowed of as sufficient, which is not signed by a field-officer of the regiment into which he was enlisted, or commanding officer, where no field-officer of the regiment is in the same state.

### SECTION IV.

*Art. 1.* Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon the notice given to him by the commissary of musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop or company, under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

*Art. 2.* Every colonel or other field-officer commanding the regiment, troop, or company, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but, no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall, by leave of his captain, or inferior officer, commanding the troop or company (his field-officer not being present) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their troop or company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it, of which occasion the field-officer, present with, and commanding the regiment, is to be the judge.

*Art. 3.* At every muster, the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company, there present, shall give to the commissary, certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, who shall not appear at the said

muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence ; in like manner, the commanding officer of every troop or company shall give certificates, signifying the reasons of the absence of the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers ; which reasons, and time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster-rolls opposite to the names of the respective absent officers and soldiers: The said certificates shall, together with the muster-rolls, be remitted by the Commissary to the Congress, as speedily as the distance of place will admit.

*Art. 4.* Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial of having signed a false certificate, relating to the absence of either officer or private soldier, shall be cashiered.

*Art. 5.* Every officer who shall knowingly make a false muster of man or horse, and every officer or commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the muster-rolls, wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof by two witnesses before a general court-martial, be cashiered, and shall be thereby utterly disabled to have or hold any office or employment in the service of the United States.

*Art. 6.* Any commissary who shall be convicted of having taken money, or any other thing, by way of gratification, on the mustering any regiment, troop, or company, or on the signing the muster-rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and shall be thereby utterly disabled to have or hold any office or employment under the United States.

*Art. 7.* Any officer who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier, who is, at other times, accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

#### SECTION V.

*Art. 1.* Every officer who shall knowingly make a false return to the Congress, or any committee thereof, to the commander in chief of the forces of the United States, or to any his superior officer authorized to call for such returns, of the state of the regiment, troop, or company, or garrison, under his command, or of arms, ammunition, clothing, or other stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

*Art. 2.* The commanding officer of every regiment, troop, or independent company, or garrison of the United States, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the commander in chief of the American forces, and to the Congress, an exact return of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and time of, their absence: Whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted the sending such returns, shall be punished according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

#### SECTION VI.

*Art. 1.* All officers and soldiers, who having received pay, or having been duly inlisted in the service of the United States, shall be convicted of having deserted the same, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

*Art. 2.* Any non-commissioned officer or soldier, who shall, without leave from his commanding officer, absent himself from his troop or company, or from any detachment with which he shall be commanded, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished, according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a court-martial.

*Art. 3.* No non-commissioned officer or soldier shall inlist himself in any other regiment, troop or company, without a regular discharge from the regiment, troop or company, in which he last served, on the penalty of being reputed

a deserter, and suffering accordingly: And in case any officer shall, knowingly, receive and entertain such non-commissioned officer or soldier, or shall not, after his being discovered to be a deserter, immediately confine him, and give notice thereof to the corps in which he last served, he, the said officer so offending, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

*Art. 4.* Whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert the service of the United States, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

## SECTION VII.

*Art. 1.* No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, upon pain, if an officer, of being put in arrest; if a soldier, imprisoned, and of asking pardon of the party offended, in the presence of his commanding officer.

*Art. 2.* No officer or soldier shall presume to send a challenge to any other officer or soldier, to fight a duel, upon pain, if a commissioned officer, of being cashiered, if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, of suffering corporeal punishment, at the discretion of a court-martial.

*Art. 3.* If any commissioned or non-commissioned officer commanding a guard, shall, knowingly and willingly, suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, he shall be punished as a challenger: And likewise all seconds, promoters, and carriers of challenges, in order to duels, shall be deemed as principals, and be punished accordingly.

*Art. 4.* All officers, of what condition soever, have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another regiment, troop or company; and either to order officers into arrest, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers to prison, till their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whosoever shall refuse to obey such officer (though of an inferior rank) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

*Art. 5.* Whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall himself be punished as a challenger; and all officers and soldiers are hereby discharged of any disgrace, or opinion of disadvantage, which might arise from their having refused to accept of challenges, as they will only have acted in obedience to the orders of Congress, and done their duty as good soldiers, who subject themselves to discipline.

## SECTION VIII.

*Art. 1.* No suttler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveilles, or upon Sundays, during divine service, or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

*Art. 2.* All officers, soldiers and suttlers, shall have full liberty to bring into any of the forts or garrisons of the United American States, any quantity or species of provisions, eatable or drinkable, except where any contract or contracts are, or shall be entered into by Congress, or by their order, for furnishing such provisions, and with respect only to the species of provisions so contracted for.

*Art. 3.* All officers, commanding in the forts, barracks, or garrisons of the United States, are hereby required to see, that the persons permitted to suttle, shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions at the market price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

*Art. 4.* No officers, commanding in any of the garrisons, forts, or barracks of the United States, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls let out to suttlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others;

nor, by their own authority and for their private advantage, shall they lay any duty or imposition upon, or be interested in the sale of such victuals, liquors or other necessities of life, which are brought into the garrison, fort, or barracks, for the use of the soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

### SECTION IX.

*Art. 1.* Every officer commanding in quarters, garrisons, or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command; if, upon complaint made to him of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person; of disturbing fairs or markets, or of committing any kind of riots to the disquieting of the good people of the United States; he the said commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as part of the offenders pay shall enable him or them, shall, upon proof thereof, be punished, by a general court-martial, as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

### SECTION X.

*Art. 1.* Whenever any officer or soldier shall be accused of a capital crime, or of having used violence, or committed any offence against the persons or property of the good people of any of the United American States, such as is punishable by the known laws of the land, the commanding officer and officers of every regiment, troop, or party, to which the person or persons so accused shall belong, are hereby required, upon application duly made by or in behalf of the party or parties injured, to use his utmost endeavors to deliver over such accused person or persons to the civil magistrate; and likewise to be aiding and assisting to the officers of justice in apprehending and securing the person or persons so accused, in order to bring them to a trial. If any commanding officer or officers shall wilfully neglect or shall refuse, upon the application aforesaid, to deliver over such accused person or persons to the civil magistrates, or to be aiding and assisting to the officers of justice in apprehending such person or persons, the officer or officers so offending shall be cashiered.

*Art. 2.* No officer shall protect any person from his creditors, on the pretence of his being a soldier, nor any non-commissioned officer or soldier who does not actually do all duties as such, and no farther than is allowed by a resolution of Congress, bearing date the 26th day of December, 1775. Any officer offending herein, being convicted thereof before a court-martial, shall be cashiered.

### SECTION XI.

*Art. 1.* If any officer shall think himself to be wronged by his colonel, or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the general, commanding in chief the forces of the United States, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into the said complaint, and, either by himself, or the board of war, to make report to Congress thereupon, in order to receive further directions.

*Art. 2.* If any inferior officer or soldier shall think himself wronged by his captain, or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a regimental court-martial, for the doing justice to the complainant; from which regimental court-martial either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a general court-martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the said general court-martial.

## SECTION XII.

*Art. 1.* Whatsoever commissioned officer, store-keeper, or commissary, shall be convicted at a general court-martial of having sold (without a proper order for that purpose) embezzled, misapplied, or wilfully, or through neglect, suffered any of the provisions, forage, arms, clothing, ammunition, or other military stores belonging to the United States, to be spoiled or damaged, the said officer, store-keeper, or commissary so offending, shall, at his own charge, make good the loss or damage, shall moreover forfeit all his pay, and be dismissed from the service.

*Art. 2.* Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be convicted, at a regimental court-martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the ammunition delivered out to him to be employed in the service of the United States, shall, if a non-commissioned officer, be reduced to a private sentinel, and shall besides suffer corporeal punishment in the same manner as a private sentinel so offending, at the discretion of a regimental court-martial.

*Art. 3.* Every non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be convicted at a court-martial of having sold, lost or spoiled, through neglect, his horse, arms, clothes or accoutrements shall undergo such weekly stoppages (not exceeding the half of his pay) as a court-martial shall judge sufficient for repairing the loss or damage; and shall suffer imprisonment, or such other corporeal punishment, as his crime shall deserve.

*Art. 4.* Every officer who shall be convicted at a court-martial of having embezzled or misapplied any money with which he may have been entrusted for the payment of the men under his command, or for inlisting men into the service, if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered and compelled to refund the money, if a non-commissioned officer, shall be reduced to serve in the ranks as a private soldier, be put under stoppages until the money be made good, and suffer such corporeal punishment, (not extending to life or limb) as the court-martial shall think fit.

*Art. 5.* Every captain of a troop or company is charged with the arms, accoutrements, ammunition, clothing, or other warlike stores belonging to the troop or company under his command, which he is to be accountable for to his colonel, in case of their being lost, spoiled, or damaged, not by unavoidable accidents, or on actual service.

## SECTION XIII.

*Art. 1.* All non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave, in writing, from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 2.* No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters, garrison, or camp, without leave from his superior officer, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 3.* Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat; in default of which he shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the commanding officer.

*Art. 4.* No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by his commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness, or some other evident necessity; or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on the penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 5.* Whatever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such corporeal punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial.

**Art. 6.** Whatever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or fail it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial.

**Art. 7.** No soldier belonging to any regiment, troop, or company, shall employ another to do his duty for him, or be excused from duty, but in case of sickness or disability, or leave of absence; and every such soldier found guilty of neglecting his duty, as also the party so hired to do another's duty, shall be punished by the next regimental court-martial.

**Art. 8.** And every non-commissioned officer conniving at such hiring as aforesaid, shall be reduced for it; and every commissioned officer, neglecting and allowing of such ill-practices in the service, shall be punished by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**Art. 9.** Any person, belonging to the forces employed in the service of the United States, who, by discharging of fire-arms, drawing of sword, or beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarm in camp, garrison, or quarters, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**Art. 10.** Any officer or soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, and without the leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

**Art. 11.** No officer or soldier shall do violence to any person who is carrying provisions or other necessaries to the camp, garrison or quarters of the forces of the United States employed in parts out of said states, on pain of death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall direct.

**Art. 12.** Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, or shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or speak words inducing others to do the like, shall suffer death.

**Art. 13.** Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, and run away, or shamefully abandon any fort, post or guard, or they shall be commanded to defend, or speak words inducing others to do the like; or who, after victory, shall quit his commanding officer, or plunder and pillage: Every such offender, being duly convicted thereof, shall be reputed a disobeyer of military orders; and shall suffer death, or such other punishment, as, by a general court-martial, shall be inflicted on him.

**Art. 14.** Any person, belonging to the forces of the United States, who shall cast away his arms and ammunition, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**Art. 15.** Any person, belonging to the forces of the United States, who shall make known the watch-word to any person who is not entitled to know it according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a watch-word different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

**Art. 16.** All officers and soldiers are to behave themselves orderly in quarters, and on their march; and whosoever shall commit any waste or destruction either in walks of trees, parks, warrens, fish-ponds, houses or gardens, or fields, enclosures or meadows, or shall maliciously destroy any property whatsoever belonging to the good people of the United States, unless by order of the then commander in chief of the forces of the said states, to annoy their or other enemies in arms against said states, he or they that shall be guilty of offending herein, shall (besides such penalties as they are liable to by law) be punished according to the nature and degree of the offence, by the judgment of a regimental or general court-martial.

**Art. 17.** Whosoever, belonging to the forces of the United States, employed in foreign parts, shall force a safe-guard, shall suffer death.

**Art. 18.** Whosoever shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbor or protect an enemy, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

*Art. 19.* Whosoever shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

*Art. 20.* All public stores taken in the enemy's camp, towns, forts, or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, forage, or provisions, shall be secured for the service of the United States; for the neglect of which the commanders in chief are to be answerable.

*Art. 21.* If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colors to go in search of plunder, he shall upon being convicted thereof before a general court-martial, suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

*Art. 22.* If any commander of any garrison, fortress, or post, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command, to give up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 23.* All suttlers and retainers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the armies of the United States in the field, though no inlisted soldier, are to be subject to orders, according to the rules and discipline of war.

*Art. 24.* Officers having brevets, or commissions of a prior date to those of the regiment in which they now serve, may take place in courts-martial and on detachments, when composed of different corps, according to the ranks given them in their brevets or dates of their former commissions; but in the regiment, troop, or company to which such brevet officers and those who have commissions of a prior date do belong, they shall do duty and take rank both on court-martial and on detachments which shall be composed only of their own corps, according to the commissions by which they are mustered in the said corps.

*Art. 25.* If upon marches, guards, or in quarters, different corps shall happen to join or do duty together, the eldest officer by commission there, on duty, or in quarters, shall command the whole, and give out orders for what is needful to the service; regard being always had to the several ranks of those corps, and the posts they usually occupy.

*Art. 26.* And in like manner also, if any regiments, troops, or detachments of horse or foot shall happen to march with, or be encamped or quartered with any bodies or detachments of other troops in the service of the United States, the eldest officer, without respect to corps, shall take upon him the command of the whole, and give the necessary orders to the service.

#### SECTION XIV.

*Art. 1.* A general court-martial in the United States shall not consist of less than thirteen commissioned officers, and the president of such court-martial shall not be the commander in chief or commandant of the garrison where the offender shall be tried, nor be under the degree of a field officer.

*Art. 2.* The members both of general and regimental courts-martial shall, when belonging to different corps, take the same rank which they hold in the army; but when courts-martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to the dates of the commissions, by which they are mustered in the said corps.

*Art. 3.* The judge-advocate general, or some person deputed by him, shall prosecute in the name of the United States of America; and in trials of offenders by general courts-martial, administer to each member the following oaths:

"You shall well and truly try and determine, according to your evidence, the matter now before you, between the United States of America, and the prisoners to be tried. So help you God.

" You A. B. do swear, that you will duly administer justice according to the rules and articles for the better government of the forces of the United States of America, without partiality, favor, or affection; and if any doubt shall arise, which is not explained by the said articles, according to your conscience, the best of your understanding, and the custom of war in the like cases. And you do further swear, that you will not divulge the sentence of the court, until it shall be approved of by the general, or commander in chief; neither will you, upon any account, at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required to give evidence thereof as a witness by a court of justice, in a due course of law. So help you God."

And as soon as the said oath shall have been administered to the respective members, the president of the court shall administer to the judge-advocate, or person officiating as such, an oath in the following words:

" You A. B. do swear, that you will not, upon any account, at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required to give evidence thereof, as a witness, by a court of justice, in a due course of law. So help you God."

*Art. 4.* All the members of a court-martial are to behave with calmness and decency; and in the giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest in commission.

*Art. 5.* All persons who give evidence before a general court-martial, are to be examined upon oath; and no sentence of death shall be given against any offender by any general court-martial, unless two-thirds of the officers present shall concur therein.

*Art. 6.* All persons called to give evidence, in any cause, before a court-martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal, at the discretion of such court-martial: The oath to be administered in the following form, viz.

" You swear the evidence you shall give in the cause now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God."

*Art. 7.* No field-officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and of three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

*Art. 8.* No sentence of a general court-martial shall be put in execution, till after a report shall be made of the whole proceedings to Congress, or to the general or commander in chief of the forces of the United States, and their or his directions be signified thereupon.

*Art. 9.* For the more equitable decision of disputes which may arise between officers and soldiers belonging to different corps, it is hereby directed, that the courts-martial shall be equally composed of officers belonging to the corps in which the parties in question do then serve; and that the presidents shall be taken by turns, beginning with that corps which shall be eldest in rank.

*Art. 10.* The commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their colonel or commanding officer, hold regimental courts-martial for the enquiring into such disputes, or criminal matters, as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishments for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the court-martial) or the commandant of the garrison, shall have confirmed the same.

*Art. 11.* No regimental court-martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot conveniently be assembled, when three may be sufficient; who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer of the regiment, not being a member of the court-martial.

*Art. 12.* Every officer commanding in any of the forts, barracks, or elsewhere,

where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments, or of independent companies, may assemble courts-martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed until it shall be confirmed by the said commanding officer.

*Art. 13.* No commissioned officer shall be cashiered or dismissed from the service, excepting by an order from the Congress, or by the sentence of a general court-martial; but non-commissioned officers may be discharged as private soldiers, and, by the order of the colonel of the regiment, or by the sentence of a regimental court-martial, be reduced to private sentinels.

*Art. 14.* No person whatever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a court martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said court-martial.

*Art. 15.* To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, it is hereby directed, that whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a court-martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by a proper authority.

*Art. 16.* No officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court-martial can be conveniently assembled.

*Art. 17.* No officer commanding a guard, or provost-martial, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge, by any officer belonging to the forces of the United States; which officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

*Art. 18.* No officer commanding a guard, or provost-martial, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a court-martial.

*Art. 19.* Every officer or provost-martial to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the colonel of the regiment to whom the prisoner belongs (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps) or to the commander in chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of his being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a court-martial.

*Art. 20.* And if any officer under arrest, shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, he shall be cashiered for it.

*Art. 21.* Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted, before a general court-martial, of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

*Art. 22.* In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice, or fraud, it shall be added in the punishment, that the crime, name, place of abode, and punishment of the delinquent, be published in the newspapers, in and about the camp, and of that particular state from which the offender came, or usually resides: After which, it shall be deemed scandalous for any officer to associate with him.

## SECTION XV.

*Art. 1.* When any commissioned officer shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of the United States, the major of the regiment, or the officer doing

the major's duty in his absence, shall immediately secure all his effects, equipage, then in camp or quarters; and shall, before the next court-martial, make an inventory thereof, and forthwith transmit the same to the office of the board of war, to the end, that his executors may, after payment of his debts in quarters and interment, receive the overplus, if any, for their use.

*Art. 2.* When any non-commissioned officer or soldier shall have been or to be killed in the service of the United States, the then commanding officer of the troop or company, shall, in the presence of two other commissioned officers, take an account of whatever effects he dies possessed of, including regimental clothing, arms, and accoutrements, and transmit the same to the office of the board at war; which said effects are to be accounted for, and the representative of such deceased non-commissioned officer or soldier, in case any of the officers, so authorized to take care of the effects of officers and soldiers, should, before they shall have accounted to their representatives for the same, have occasion to leave the regiment, by preference, or otherwise, they shall, before they be permitted to quit the same, deposit in the hands of the commanding officer or of the agent of the regiment, all the effects of such deceased non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in order that they may be secured for, and paid to, their respective representatives.

### SECTION XVI.

*Art. 1.* All officers, conductors, gunners, matrosses, drivers, or any persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the artillery of the United States, shall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial, in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the other troops in the service of the United States.

*Art. 2.* For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating to their own corps, the courts-martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of artillery shall be joined in the courts-martial with the officers of the other corps, taking their rank according to the dates of their respective commissions, and no otherwise.

### SECTION XVII.

*Art. 1.* The officers and soldiers of any troops, whether minute-men or others, being mustered and in continental pay, shall, at all times, and in all places, when joined, or acting in conjunction with the regular forces of the United States, be governed by these rules or articles of war, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the regular forces, save only that such courts-martial shall be composed entirely of militia officers of the same provincial corps with the offender.

That such militia and minute-men as are now in service, and have, by particular contract with the respective states, engaged to be governed by particular regulations while in continental service, shall not be subject to the above articles of war.

*Art. 2.* For the future, all general officers and colonels, serving by commission from the authority of any particular state, shall, on all detachments, courts-martial, or other duty wherein they may be employed in conjunction with the regular forces of the United States, take rank next after all generals and colonels serving by commissions from Congress, though the commissions of such particular generals and colonels should be of elder date; and in like manner lieutenant-colonels, majors, captains, and other inferior officers, serving by commission from any particular state, shall, on all detachments, courts-martial, or other duty, wherein they may be employed in conjunction with the regular forces of the United States, have rank next after all officers of the

...ving by commissions from Congress, though the commissions of such  
...nt-colonels, majors, captains, and other inferior officers, should be of  
...te to those of the like rank from Congress.

### SECTION XVIII.

1. The foregoing articles are to be read and published once in every  
...nths, at the head of every regiment, troop or company, mustered, or to  
...tered in the service of the United States ; and are to be duly observed  
...ctly obeyed by all officers and soldiers who are or shall be in the said

2. The general, or commander in chief for the time being, shall have full  
...of pardoning or mitigating any of the punishments ordered to be inflict-  
...any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing articles ; and every of-  
...convicted as aforesaid, by any regimental court-martial, may be pardon-  
...have his punishment mitigated by the colonel, or officer commanding the  
...ent.

3. No person shall be sentenced to suffer death, except in the cases ex-  
...y mentioned in the foregoing articles ; nor shall more than one hundred  
...be inflicted on any offender, at the discretion of a court-martial.

...t every judge-advocate, or person officiating as such, at any general court-  
...l, do, and he is hereby required to transmit, with as much expedition as  
...portunity of time and distance of place can admit, the original proceed-  
...nd sentence of such court-martial to the secretary at war, which said ori-  
...proceedings and sentence shall be carefully kept and preserved in the of-  
...said secretary, to the end that persons entitled thereto may be enabled,  
...application to the said office, to obtain copies thereof.

...at the party tried by any general court-martial, shall be entitled to a copy  
...sentence and proceedings of such court-martial, upon demand thereof  
...by himself, or by any other person or persons, on his behalf, whether such  
...nce be approved or not.

...t. 4. The field officers of each and every regiment are to appoint some  
...ble person belonging to such regiment, to receive all such fines as may  
...within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing articles, and shall  
...t the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick,  
...ded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such regiments ; and such person  
...account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

...t. 5. All crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which officers  
...soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military dis-  
...ne, though not mentioned in the above articles of war, are to be taken cog-  
...nce of by a general or regimental court-martial, according to the nature  
...degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

...dered, That the foregoing articles of war be immediately published.

...dered, That the resolutions for raising the new army be published, and  
...as thereof sent to the commanding officers in the several departments, and  
...e assemblies and conventions of the respective states.

...petition from Charles Roberts, commander of the schooner Thistle, was

...dered, To lie on the table.

...esolved, That the sum of 6,700 dollars be advanced to the delegates of New-  
...k, for the use of that state ; the said state to be accountable.

...dered, That Mr. Paine write to governor Trumbull respecting the practi-  
...lity of enlarging the furnace at Salisbury, for casting heavy cannon there,  
...request his opinion concerning the same.

...The delegates from New-York having communicated to Congress a letter  
...the 9th, from the committee of safety of that state, with sundry papers en-  
...sed :

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report thereon with all convenient despatch:

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. Paine and Mr. Stockton.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to repair to head-quarters near New-York, to enquire into the state of the army, and the best means of supplying their wants:

The members chosen, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Gerry and Mr. Lewis.

*Resolved*, That an assistant physician to Dr. Shippen be appointed to attend the flying-camp and troops in New-Jersey, and that his pay be 2 dollars per day:

The ballots being taken,

Dr. William Brown was elected.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

### MONDAY, September 23, 1776.

A letter, of the 20th and 21st, from general Washington; two of the 21st, from J. Trumbull; one of the 21st, from the convention of Delaware; one of the 14th, from R. Varick; one of the 19th, from governor Livingston; one of the 14th, from general Schuyler, and one of the 19th, from general Schaick, and one from Dr. William Shippen, were read:

*Ordered*, That the letter from Dr. Shippen be referred to the committee, and the rest to the board of war.

Two petitions, one from colonel J. Stark, and the other from Monsieur de Rouy, were read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from captain Archibald Hamilton, was read, praying that he be permitted to return home, and reside with his wife and children.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

*Resolved*, That two months' pay be advanced to Mons. Colerus, and the same to Mons. Malmedy, and two months' pay to Mons. de Venoge, captain.

A letter from the speaker of the assembly of New-Jersey, with an answer, and a letter from Amboy, were read:

*Ordered*, That a copy of the letter from the assembly, and of the answer, and the letter from Amboy, be sent to general Mercer; and that he be desired to take such steps as shall effectually introduce order, and remove the causes of the complaints of the inhabitants of the state of New-Jersey.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee on the petition of the German battalion.

The ballots being taken,

Mr. Hooper and Mr. Ellery were elected.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for providing clothing and other necessaries for the army:

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wythe and Mr. R. Morris.

Two letters, of the 22d, from general Washington, being received, were read.

The committee, to whom were referred the several papers from the convention of the state of New-York, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the German battalion be ordered immediately to join the army under general Washington; and that the president inform his excellency of their march, and desire that he will order an equal number of men from the army, to garrison the forts in the highlands.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to supply the German battalion with such articles of clothing as they may stand in need of; the same to be charged to their account, and deducted out of the pay of the men:

That three tons of the fifteen tons of powder, lately ordered to the use of the army, and now on its way thither, be left at New-Windsor, in the state of New-York.

and from thence conveyed to fort Montgomery; and that five tons be  
ately sent from the city of Philadelphia:  
two companies of the marines lately raised, and now in Philadelphia,  
ordered to march immediately to fort Montgomery:  
application be made to the council of safety of the state of Pennsyl-  
to order one-half of the artillery men, now in the service of their state,  
eed to fort Montgomery as soon as possible:  
t Congress approve the measures adopted by the convention of New-  
for the defence of the highlands, and will cheerfully defray all the ne-  
y expenses that may accrue.  
several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
ourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *September 24*, 1776.

petition from Benjamin Marshall and brothers, and one from John Hazard,  
read, and referred to the marine committee.  
petition from Charles Startin, was read:  
*Ordered*, To lie on the table.  
board of war brought in a report, which was read:  
*Ordered*, To lie on the table.  
committee, to whom was referred the petition of colonel Hazen, brought  
report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,  
*Resolved*, That colonel Hazen and lieutenant-colonel Edward Antill be con-  
d in their offices, in the army of the United States, and that they recruit  
regiment to the number of a battalion on the continental establishment:  
at the settlement of colonel Hazen's accounts of monies advanced by  
for the service of the United States, in Canada, be referred to the com-  
oners appointed to audit accounts in the northern department;  
at 1095 dollars be paid to colonel Hazen, in full satisfaction for his neat  
e, sheep, swine, poultry, hay and other articles, alleged to have been ta-  
and used for the benefit of the continental army, near St. John's; which  
together with 533 dollars and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d already received by him on that account,  
e amount of the said articles, as estimated by commissioners appointed by  
ral Wooster for that purpose, pursuant to an order of Congress:  
hat the damages done to the buildings, farms, &c. by our troops or those of  
enemy, ought not to be paid, unless general provision be made for com-  
ating all others, who, by means of the war, have, in like manner, been  
nified; which may be a subject worthy to be considered, after the close of  
war.  
*Resolved*, That the committee be discharged from enquiring into what res-  
s the conduct of general Arnold; the Congress having directed general  
shington to cause an enquiry to be made into the conduct of the officers,  
served in Canada.  
*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to devise ways and means  
effectually providing the northern army with provisions and medicines, and  
plying their other necessary wants:  
he members chosen, Mr. Rush, Mr. Hall, Mr. Chase, Mr. Johnson and  
Stockton.  
*Resolved*, That the medical committee be directed to apply to the council of  
ty of Pennsylvania, for a quantity of medicines; to be repaid in kind or  
cash, as they shall choose.  
The board of war brought in a farther report:  
*Ordered*, To lie on the table.  
Congress resumed the consideration of the instructions to the commissioners,  
d the same being debated by paragraphs, and amended, were agreed to.  
*Ordered*, That the committee of secret correspondence lay before Congress  
morrow morning, the intelligence they have lately received from abroad.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, *September 25, 1776.***

Two letters from general Lee; one of the 24th of August to the president, the other of the 27th of the same month to the board of War, both dated at Savannah, being received, were read.

The committee of the treasury reported, that there is due,

To John Bates, for 212 camp-kettles delivered to Gustavus Risberg, assistant to the deputy quarter-master-general, 282 60-90 dollars.

To Melchior Meng, for wagon-hire, carrying money to Albany, with expenses, going and returning, 117 7-90 dollars.

To Samuel Johnson, for 1047 meals supplied the militia on their march to New-Jersey, 104 63-90 dollars:

To John Kerlin, for entertaining militia on their march to New-Jersey, 55 27-90 dollars:

To Messrs. St. Luke la Corn, major Campbell and captain Frazier, prisoners from Canada, for their allowance of two dollars a week each, and for their three servants at one dollar a week each, from the 8th of July to the 23d of September, 1776, inclusive, 11 weeks, 90 dollars.

To Peter Mather, for entertaining militia on their march to New-Jersey, 32 72-90 dollars.

To Samuel Pews, for supplying the militia with 269 meals of victuals, on their march to New-Jersey, 26 81-90 dollars:

To Francis Lee, for the hire of a stage-coach, agreeable to a certificate of Richard Peters, esq. to convey general Prescott and general M'Donald, with their guard, 26 60-90 dollars.

To Jacob Henkles, for suppling troops with provisions, on their march to New-Jersey, 215 52-90 dollars:

To Robert Tolbert, 18 18-90 dollars and to Joseph M'Kellup, 45 18-90 dollars, for entertaining troops on their march to New-Jersey, both sums amounting to 63 36-90 dollars, to be paid to the said Joseph M'Kellup:

To colonel Allen M'Donald of Kingsborough, and his son Alexander M'Donald, for their allowance of two dollars a week for 21 weeks, and for their servants' allowance, 21 weeks, at one dollar a week, settled to the 17th of September, 105 dollars:

To John Pluckrose, for going express from Congress to Charleston, South-Carolina, 132 dollars:

To the steward of the Pennsylvania hospital, for boarding William Whiting, a wounded soldier, 4 weeks, by order of Congress, 5 30-90 dollars:

To Jacob Peterman, to be paid to John Ebert, for 83 meals of victuals supplied the troops of the flying-camp, on their march to New-Jersey, 8 22-90 dollars:

To Gunning Bedford, esq. for his pay and rations, from the 17th of June to the 17th of September, 1776, being 3 months, 152 64-90 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The said committee farther reported, that they have considered the petition of captain James Ross to Congress, and are of opinion, that he should be credited with the following sums charged to his account; he not having received the accounts in time, to make the stoppages, viz:

For Sundry articles supplied by Mr. Slough, amounting to 486 65-90 dollars:

For drums, &c. by Simons & Henry, 17 24-90 dollars:

For cash to a wagoner, by committee of Lancaster county, 66 60-90 dollars:

For part of an account of expenses of his company, on their march to Cambridge, 17 78-90 dollars:

The whole amounting to 588 47-90ths dollars:

*Ordered*, That the said sum be passed to his credit.

*Resolved*, That an order for 40 dollars be drawn on the treasurer in favor of Mons. P. Govert, as captain-lieutenant of artillery; the same being two months' pay advanced, for which he is to be accountable.

A letter from general Washington, enclosing one from brigadier-general Green, and a return of the army, was read.

*Resolved*, That the captains, or commanding officers of the companies of the militia of Pennsylvania, make up the pay-rolls of such companies as have been regularly discharged from the camp, in New-Jersey, from the time of their being last paid, with the addition of a day to each man, for every twenty miles between the camp and his respective place of abode; for which an allowance of one penny per mile is to be made, without rations or subsistence. The sums due on the said rolls to be attested by the oaths or affirmations of the respective captains or commanding officers, and certified by one of their field-officers. And the pay-master in Philadelphia is hereby directed to discharge the said rolls, on certificates being produced from the commissary of stores at the flying-camp, and in this city, of the re-delivery of such of the public stores as have been received by the companies aforesaid, or the regiments to which they respectively belong, or upon deducting the amount thereof from the pay of those who have not returned them:

That the captains or commanding officers of such of the said militia, as are not yet returned from the camp, be directed, when discharged, to procure from the commanding officer of the camp, certificates of the sums due in their respective rolls; and in every other respect, the said captains or commanding officers, and the pay-masters aforesaid, are to observe the rules prescribed in the foregoing resolve for payment of the said militia.

*Resolved*, That three gentlemen be appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the Pennsylvania militia:

The ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz. Mr. P. Chevalier, Mr. J. Wilcox and Mr. James Mease.

The committee appointed to devise way and means for providing clothing and other necessaries, for the army, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the general assemblies and conventions of the United States, to forward to head-quarters, the clothing, blankets and necessaries, which they may have provided in consequence of the resolution of Congress of the 19th of June last, drawing on the president for the cost and conveyance thereof; in which it is hoped the utmost diligence and expedition will be used, that those who expose themselves to danger in defending and protecting their fellow-citizens, may suffer as little as possible from inclement seasons:

That a committee of Congress, consisting of one delegate from each state, be appointed, with authority to employ proper persons to purchase, in their respective states, a sufficient number of blankets and woollens, fit for soldiers' clothes, and that they take the most effectual and speedy methods for getting such woollens made up, and distributed among the regular continental army, in such proportion as will best promote the public service: And that they also purchase all other necessary clothing for the soldiers, in such proportion, as they judge, upon the best information, will be wanted; and that the said committee be authorized to draw on the president of Congress, for the sums necessary to execute this business; they to be accountable for the amount of their draughts and disbursements:

That Mr. J. Mease be directed immediately to send to general Gates, all the white shirts, shoes and stockings, he now has in his possession, and which are unappropriated, for the use of the northern army; and that he use the utmost diligence in buying, collecting and getting made, immediately, as many more

of those articles as possible, making weekly reports to Congress of what he obtains :

That general Schuyler or the commanding officer at Albany, be desired to employ proper persons, immediately, to make up into soldier's clothes, the woollens mentioned in general Schuyler's letter of the 29th of August last, and transmit the same, without delay, to the general commanding the northern army, for the use of such of the troops in that army, as have enlisted for three years, or will enlist during the war.

*Resolved*, That the commissaries and quarter-master general, and deputy quarter-masters general and their assistants, in the several departments, be directed to apply to Mr. Mease for such articles of clothing, camp-equipage, and other utensils, which they may want to purchase in the state of Pennsylvania for the use of the army.

Congress then proceeded to the appointment of the committee, when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz.

Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Ellery, Mr. Williams, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Stockton, Mr. Ross, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Paca, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Middleton, and Mr. Hall.

*Resolved*, That lieutenant Boger and lieutenant Ball be released from prison, on signing the like parole, as the other officers, prisoners at York-Town, in Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That the committee to whom was entrusted the care of publishing the journals of this house, be empowered to collect from the several printers, such parts of the said journals as they have printed, and lodge them with Robert Aitken, for sale ; the several printers to be paid out of the sales, in such manner as the committee shall find just and equitable ; and that the said committee make a publication of the journals as far as printed, as soon as possible.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for providing the northern army with provisions, medicines and other necessities, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a committee be immediately sent to Ticonderoga ; that they give orders that a number of sheep, and a quantity of Indian meal, rice, and oatmeal, and molasses, be immediately sent to Lake George and Ticonderoga ; that they endeavor to contract for the provisions for the northern army, by the ration, the particulars of which to be valued, and any part not supplied, to be paid for in money by the contractor ; and that such contract be made, as far as may be, agreeable to the mode recommended by general Schuyler in his letter to Congress of the 25th of August : that the committee consult with the commanding officer in the northern department, and such other of the general officers as may be thought proper, on the best mode to re-enlist the army there, and to provide barracks and clothing for the troops, and especially that they engage the goods mentioned by general Schuyler, and apply such of them as may be necessary for the northern army :

That the committee be empowered to make regulations for the hospitals in the northern department, and to remove or suspend any person employed therein, and to employ such as they may think necessary and proper ; and that they report to Congress the state and condition of the army, and any further regulations which they may think necessary, for the better government and supplying the said army :

That the committee consist of two, and that to-morrow be assigned for electing the said committee.

Congress took into consideration the report of the board of war : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to purchase as many tents, camp-kettles, canteens, and other camp furniture, and as much clothing as he can possibly procure, for the use of the army under the command of general Washington :

That captain James Ross be appointed major in colonel Hand's regiment, and that the other vacancies in that battalion be filled up as recommended by the colonel, in manner following, viz.

John Halliday to be captain, in the room of James Ross, promoted :

William Wilson to be first-lieutenant, John Dougherty to be second lieutenant, and Benjamin Lyon to be third lieutenant ; John Dick to be second lieutenant, in the room of Jacob Zanch, resigned ; and Robert Cunningham to be third lieutenant, vice John Dick :

That the vacancies in colonel Ward's regiment of the Massachusetts-Bay be filled up in the manner recommended by the colonel, viz.

Captain James Melish, to be major ; commission to be dated from the time of doing duty, viz. - - - August 15, 1776			2d lieuts.	Jon. Champeney,	July 12, 1776,
Captains, Ephraim Burr, April 1, do.				Samuel Cloffin,	Sept. 11, do.
Eben. Cleveland, July 12, do.			Ensigns,	Jonas Snow,	July 20, do.
Nahum Ward, Sept. 11, do.				Caleb Noble,	July 20, do.
1st lieuts. Baxter Howe, July 12, do.				Joseph Freeland,	Sept. 11, do.
Samuel Shelden, Sept. 11, do.			Chaplain,	Eben. Cleveland,	Jan. 1, do.
			Surgeon,	Elihu Wright,	Aug. 12, do.
			Do. mate,	Israel Whiting,	July 1, do.

That Leonard Gansevoort, jun. be appointed pay-master to col. Van Schaick's regiment :

That Richard Varick, late captain in colonel M'Dougal's regiment, which office he resigned, secretary to the honorable major-general Schuyler, be appointed deputy muster-master general to the northern army : and

That major Henry Brockholst Livingston, aid-de-camp to general Schuyler, be provided for by Congress in a station equal to his merit, when a proper vacancy happens, he being recommended by the general as a very deserving officer :

That the part of general Schuyler's letter, referred to the board of war, which relates to Indian affairs, be referred to the committee for Indian affairs :

That the commissary-general be directed to procure such quantities of salt, and to buy, cure, and lay up, in proper places, such quantities of provisions as he shall judge necessary for the next campaign :

That the commissary general's letter relative to his having drawn an order on Mr. president Hancock, in favor of colonel Lowry, for 60,000 dollars, be referred to the treasury board :

That Monsieur Devourouy's petition be referred to the marine committee :

That the letters from his excellency governor Livingston, of New-Jersey, respecting the payment of the militia, be referred to the treasury board :

That so much of general Arnold's letter to general Schuyler, as relates to clothing, be referred to the committee for providing clothing for the army.

The committee appointed to settle the rank of the captains and subalterns in the German battalion, reported the same as follows, which was agreed to :

Captains, Daniel Burkhart, Philip Graybill, George Hubley, Henry Fister, Jacob Bonner, George Kaports, Benjamin Weiser, William Keyser, and David Woelpper.

First-lieutenants, Frederick Rolwagen, John Lora, Peter Boyer, Charles Bulsel, William Rice, Jacob Kotz, Jacob Bower, Samuel Gerock, and Bernard Hubley.

Second-lieutenants, George Hawbacker, Christian Meyers, John Landenberger, Michael Bayer, George Schaeffer, Adam Smith, Frederick Yeiser, William Ritter, and Philip Schrawder.

Ensigns, John Weidman, Martin Shugart, Christian Helm, Jacob Crummet, Jacob Cramer, Paul Christman, Christopher Godfrey Swartz, and John Landenberger.

The committee appointed to hear and determine on the appeal against the sentence of condemnation passed upon the schooner Thistle, having reversed the decree,

**Resolved**, That a passport and safe conduct be granted to Charles L. master of the schooner Thistle, for himself and the said schooner, for six of sixty days.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, September 26, 1776.**

Congress proceeded to the election of a committee to go to Town and the ballots being taken,

Mr. Stockton and Mr. Clymer were elected.

**Ordered**, That the secret committee deliver to lieutenant Pennington of powder, for the use of his company.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Jacob Shizens, for half-ferryages of the militia and their baggage, shaminy ferry, 17 40-90 dollars:

To James M'Cree, for boarding nine men of captain Grier's company, days, at the rate of 1 dollar and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d per week, 30 77-90 dollars:

To John Teney, for supplying the militia with 201 meals victuals on march to New-Jersey, 20 9-90 dollars; and to Philip Upright, for supplying them with 996 meals, 99 54-90 dollars, both sums making 119 68-90 dollars to be paid to Adam Kimmel:

To John White Swift, for two receipts of brigadier-general D. Wooster dated 17th January, for 240 dollars, and the other 8th of March, for 20 Johannes, with interest allowed thereon, being six months, 18 days, at 6 cent. amounts to 206 54-90 dollars, both sums making 446 54-90 dollars:

To John Shultz, for boarding and lodging sundry continental troops, 201 60-90 dollars; and, for boarding and nursing sundry sick troops, 40-90 dollars, both sums making 231 19-90 dollars:

To captain Philip Graybill, of the German battalion, the balance due on account for arms, accoutrements, &c. for the use of his company, and for provisions supplied them on their march from Maryland to Philadelphia, 1168 5-90 dollars, agreeable to the following account, viz.

Amount of provisions' account, 732 41-90 dollars:

Of which he received, of the council of safety of Maryland, 200 00-00 dollars:

Of colonel Stricker, 327 dollars:

Of major Veltner, 100 dollars: 693 60-90 dollars:

Balance on this account, 38 71-90 dollars:

Amount of arms, accoutrements, blankets, &c. 1129 24-90 dollars:

Amounting, in the whole, to 1168 5-90 dollars:

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

**Resolved**, That the committee appointed to superintend the publication of the journals, be empowered and instructed to employ Robert Aitken to print the said journals from the beginning, with all possible expedition, and to continue to print the same: And that this house will purchase of him 500 copies of the said journals when reprinted; and further, that he be directed to purchase, on reasonable terms, such parts of the journals as Mr. Bradford, Cox & Co. have printed, and not yet published, to be paid for by the Congress.

**Resolved**, That general Washington be directed to procure, as soon as possible, an exchange of the officers and soldiers taken on Long-Island, for the same number of British officers and privates, now prisoners to the United States.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.



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**FRIDAY, September 27, 1776.**

Two letters of the 24th and 25th, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed ; one, of the 20th from the convention of New-York ; one, of the 22d, from Jos. Trumbull ; one, of the 25th, from colonel John Shee, enclosing his commission ; and one, of the 25th, from Jon. B. Smith, requesting leave to resign his office of deputy muster-master general, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, That the letters from general Washington be referred to a committee of five.

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Stone.

*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of New-York, for the use of that state, which is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the resignation of colonel J. Shee and Jonathan B. Smith be accepted.

Certain resolutions of the convention of New-York, passed the 20th of this month, being laid before Congress,

*Ordered*, That they be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. M'Kean, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Hooper.

*Resolved*, That George M'Cabe, in captain Douglas's company in the flying-camp, be sent to Philadelphia, his service being necessary to the marine committee.

*Ordered*, That the secret committee deliver to the board of war, the care and custody of all arms, ammunition, and other warlike stores, now under their care, or that may hereafter be imported or purchased by them for account of the United States of America.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to pursue such measures, as they judge proper and effectual, to import as much salt as possible.

A petition from Wm. M'Cue was read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from Hamilton Young, of New-York, was read, praying that he may have leave to return to Long-Island, to take care of his books and effects :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the said petition be granted.

Congress being informed that a number of men belonging to three of the Pennsylvania battalions, have deserted from the army,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of Pennsylvania, to take the most effectual measures to compel such of their troops, as have come off from the camp on New-York island, to return immediately to that place ; that they enquire who were the ringleaders of the mutiny, and have them sent back, under guard, for trial ; and that the convention, if they think necessary, have the assistance of the German battalion, to enable them to carry this resolve into execution ; and the convention are desired to use all proper means to furnish their troops with clothing and blankets. The said convention are further desired, to cause all deserters from their troops to be immediately apprehended, and sent back to general Washington's head-quarters.

The marine committee, to whom the petition of Francis Guillot was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Francis Guillot be permitted to fit out and arm a privateer, under the colours of the United States of America, and that he be permitted to equip and arm the said vessel in such place as he thinks he can do it at the smallest expense ; he giving the usual securities in such cases directed by Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, September 28, 1776.**

A memorial from Gunning Bedford, muster-master general, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The board of war, to whom the petition of William M'Cue was referred, brought in a report; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, As Congress have empowered the several states to provide for such soldiers as may be disabled in the service of the continent, that the petition of William M'Cue be referred to the commonwealth of Virginia.

*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be advanced to the state of Pennsylvania, which is to be accountable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mease supply captain Doyle with money sufficient to purchase rifles and blankets for his company.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, September 30, 1776.**

Two letters, of the 27th and 28th, from general Washington, and one, of the 22d, from governor Trumbull, were read:

Also, a letter from Robert Franklin was read, and referred to the marine committee.

A petition from J. Rowe and others, owners of goods on board the ship Elizabeth, which was taken by captains John Manly, Daniel Waters and John Ayres, commanders of the three armed vessels Hancock, Lee and Lynch, and libelled in the court maritime for the state of New-Hampshire, and, by the sentence of the said court, acquitted; against which sentence, an appeal has been entered, was laid before Congress and read, praying that the said appeal may be heard and determined; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, with full powers to hear and determine on the said appeal:

The members chosen, Mr. Paine, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Stone, Mr. Wythe and Mr. Smith.

A letter from B. Flower, commissary of military stores, directed to the board of war, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be empowered and directed, on requisition of the general, or commanding officers in the several departments, to send such articles of military stores and other necessaries, which they may have in their possession, or can procure.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to order the three Virginia battalions, now on their march to New-York, to be lodged in the barracks at Wilmington; there to remain till farther orders.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 13,333 dollars and 1-3d be advanced to Messrs. Hughes, in part payment for the cannon they have contracted to make for the continent; they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee of treasury:

The member chosen, Mr. Hopkinson.

A petition from Mons. De Boy, and one from Mons. Ja. Vallier, were read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from Jacob Sheafe, and a petition from colonel M. Hazen, were read:

*Ordered*, That the petition from colonel Hazen be referred to the Canada committee.

The committee, to whom were referred the letters from general Washington, of the 24th and 25th instant, and the papers enclosed therein, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to call upon such of the members of the court-martial, as sat upon the trial, and concurred in the acquittal of ensign Macumber, to assign their reasons for their first judgment; that those reasons, together with the names of such of the said members, who were for the acquittal, be returned to Congress:

That Mr. M'Donald, having a commission of brigadier-general from governor Martin, be not exchanged for any officer under the rank of brigadier-general in the service either of the United States or of any one of them:

That it be recommended to the legislatures of the United States, to appoint gentlemen in their respective states, skilful in physic and surgery, to examine those who offer to serve as surgeons or surgeons' mates in the army or navy; and that no surgeon or mate shall hereafter receive a commission or warrant to act as such, in the army or navy, who shall not produce a certificate from some or one of the examiners so to be appointed, to prove that he is qualified to execute the office:

That all regimental surgeons and mates, as well as those of the hospital, be subject to the direction and controul of the directors in the several departments:

That no soldier be discharged from the service as disabled, unless the certificate of disability be countersigned by the director, assistant-physician, or first-surgeon of the hospital, nor be excused from duty for sickness, unless the certificate of sickness be countersigned by one of those persons, where access may be had to them.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the said report be postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, October 1, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 60,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. James Mease, for the payment of the militia, and to pay for the articles he is ordered to purchase; he to be accountable.

Whereas, a full representation in Congress of the several United States, is highly necessary on business of much importance to America; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the president be desired to write letters to the conventions and assemblies of the respective states, requesting that measures be taken, to cause, as speedily as possible, a full representation of the said states in Congress.

Stephen Moylan, esq. having resigned his office of quarter-master-general of the continental army,

*Resolved*, That brigadier-general Mifflin be authorized and requested to resume the said office, and that his rank and pay, as brigadier, be still continued to him:

That a committee of four be appointed to confer with brigadier-general Mifflin:

The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Sherman, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Gerry.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare, and bring in a plan, of a military academy at the army:

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Williams and Mr. J. Adams.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1776.

A letter, of the 30th of September, from general Washington, with two papers enclosed; one, of the 27th of September, from S. Moylan; one, of the 23d, from general Gates; one, of the 23d, from col. Wayne; one, from brigadier-general Mercer, and a petition from Bartholomew Van Heer, were read, and referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That William Shephard be promoted to the rank of colonel of the regiment, whereof he is now lieutenant-colonel.

A petition from John Bayard, Alexander Henderson and Matthew Irwin, was presented to Congress, and read; Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the board of war be directed to sell to the petitioners, 1000 lb. of powder, and 800 lb. of lead, for the use of their privates, gunners, and colonel Parry.

The committee appointed to confer with brigadier-general Mifflin, that, upon the conference, they find the following supplies will be necessary for the use and comfort of the army, which ought to be procured as soon as may be, viz. 200 wagons, with four horses each,—50 ox-teams, with four horses each, for sundry uses,—50 drays, with one horse each, for various uses,—100 strong horses for the artillery, 50 horses, for expresses and necessary uses,—25,000 bushels of Indian corn,—15,000 bushels of oats,—10,000 bushels of rye-meal,—10,000 bushels of spelts,—1800 tons of hay,—1000 cooking-boxes,—2000 axes,—2000 wheel and hand-barrows,—8000 ft. of lumber,—a set of carpenters' tools for each regiment,—a wagon-master for each regiment,—one deputy,—20 conductors of wagons on captains' pay, allowing 20¢ for each conductor,—5 conductors for artillery,—100 casks of nails,—10,000 spikes,—10,000 knapsacks,—10,000 camp-kettels,—two million feet of plank and joists, for barracks, platforms, &c.

That a company of 50 blacksmiths should be immediately sent to the army, and 25 wheelwrights.

**Resolved**, That for these various and necessary supplies, 300,000 be advanced to the quarter-master-general:

That one-eighth part of a dollar, over and above their soldiers' pay, be allowed to such persons as are necessarily draughted for quarter-master's service.

That as 5000 tents will be necessary for the spring-campaign, they be provided in due time:

That it be recommended to the several states, to make legal provisions to compel the furnishing of necessary supplies and assistance to the quarter-master-general of the continental army, on reasonable terms, for the public service.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to consider of a plan for providing carriages for the public service, so as any demands may be speedily complied with, and all oppression of private persons effectually prevented.

The members chosen, Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Hastings.

**Resolved**, That Benjamin Fishbourne be appointed pay-master to the Pennsylvania battalion, commanded by colonel Wood.

A memorial from the council of safety of Pennsylvania was read.

**Ordered**, That it be referred to the committee of treasury, who are directed to report thereon as soon as possible.

The committee of treasury reported that there is due,

To George Measam, on account of sundry articles supplied the army at Fort Mifflin, 9 47-90ths dollars:

**Ordered**, That the said account be paid.

The committee, to whom the resolutions passed by the convention at Fort Mifflin, were referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That the president write to general Schuyler, and inform him that Congress cannot consent, during the present situation of their affairs, to accept of his resignation, but request, that he continue the command which he now holds; that he be assured, that the aspersions, which his enemies have thrown out against his character, have had no influence upon the minds of the members of this house, who are fully satisfied of his attachments to the cause of freedom, and are willing to bear their testimony of the many services which he has rendered to his country; and that, in order effectually to put calumny to silence, they will, at an early day, appoint a committee of their own members to enquire fully into his conduct, which, they trust, will establish his reputation in the opinion of all good men.

**Resolved**, That the limits prescribed in the parole of John Foxcroft and Peter

shwood, esquires, be extended as far as the bounds of Pennsylvania, which they are to confine themselves, till farther orders. several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**THURSDAY, October 3, 1776.**

application from the council of safety of North-Carolina, *Resolved*, That Michael Holt, a prisoner in the gaol of Philadelphia, be discharged from his imprisonment, that he may return to his family; he taking the oath prescribed by the said council of safety.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to purchase, immediately, one hundred and fifty heads of rum, and forward the same to the commissary-general, for the use of the army.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Mercer, which was received and read the same day, wherein he recommends col. Humpton to the command of a regiment in the new army, and capt. Dawson to a majority, be referred to the council of safety of Pennsylvania:

That captain Persifer Frazer be commissioned as major of colonel Wayne's regiment of the Pennsylvania troops, in the room of major Housigger, promoted. A committee appointed to repair to the camp, having executed that service and returned, brought in a report, which was read:

*Resolved*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Charles Startin be permitted to return to England, with his wife and family, from any of the United States he thinks proper, except New-

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Martin Housman, for the hire of his wagon and ferriages, with generals Mifflin and M'Donald's baggage to Newark, 43 dollars.

To George Campbell, for his own and Mr. Caldwell's and Mr. Tod's expenses on an escort to money from Philadelphia to Albany, 189 67-90ths dollars:

To John Sparhawk, for quills, &c. for the use of the treasury-office, 27 1/2ths dollars:

To Ludwick Karcher, a balance of 3,150 36-90ths dollars; the whole of his account amounting to 8,483 66-90ths dollars; of which he has received 5,333 1/2ths dollars; the balance is 3,150 36-90ths:

*Resolved*, That the said accounts be paid.

Congress took into consideration the report of the board of treasury, on the means and means for raising a farther sum of money;

whereupon, *Resolved*, That five millions of continental dollars be immediately borrowed for the use of the United States, at the annual interest of five per cent. per annum:

That the faith of the United States be pledged to the lenders for the payment of the sums to be borrowed, and the interest arising thereon, and that certificates be given to the lenders in the form following, viz.

"The United States of America acknowledge the receipt of——dollars from——, which they promise to pay to the said——, or bearer, on the——day of——, with interest annually, at the rate of four per cent. per annum, pursuant to a resolution of the United States, passed the third day of October, 1776."

Witness the hand of the treasurer, this——day of——, A. D.

Countersigned" by the commissioners of one of the loan-offices hereafter to be established.

That for the convenience of the lenders, a loan-office be established in each of the United States, and a commissioner, to superintend such office, be appointed.

pointed by the said states respectively, which are to be responsible for the faithful discharge of their duty in the said offices :

That the business of the said commissioners shall be to deliver certificates for all such sums of money, as shall be brought into their respective offices, agreeable to these resolutions, which certificates shall be indented and the checks kept in the said office—to keep books, in which regular entries shall be made of the sums borrowed, and the time when, and the names of the persons by whom the said sums were lent—to transmit to the continental treasurer, once a month, an account of the cash in their respective offices, and to answer all draughts of the treasurer to the amount of the cash, which they shall, at any time, have in their hands, as aforesaid :

That the treasurer of the United States shall send to the respective loan-offices, such a number of certificates and of such denominations as shall be ordered by the commissioners of the treasury :

That no certificate be issued for a less sum than 300 dollars :

That the several sums of money to be borrowed, shall be repaid at the office where the same was lent, at the expiration of three years, and that the annual interest shall likewise be paid at the said office :

That the said commissioners of the respective loan-offices be entitled to receive of the United States, one-eighth per cent. on all monies which shall be brought into their respective loan-offices, in lieu of all claims and demands, that they may have for transacting the business of the said office.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered to take such measures, as they shall judge necessary, for purchasing, arming and equipping, a frigate and two cutters, in Europe, and to give proper orders for the said frigate making a cruize in the British channel against our enemies, and for the said cutters to be employed in transporting to these states, such articles, as the said committee have been ordered to import.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *October 4, 1776.*

A petition from the officers and men of the brig Andrew Doria was presented, and read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the continental agents in Philadelphia be directed, with all despatch, to make an estimate of the prizes taken by the Andrew Doria, and lay the same before the marine committee for their approbation ; and that the said agents be directed to pay to the officers and men of the Andrew Doria, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them :

That the said agents be farther directed to make an estimate of the stores and prizes taken by the fleet, commanded by commodore Hopkins, and brought from Providence, and lay the same before the marine committee for approbation, as aforesaid, and pay to the officers and men entitled thereto, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them.

A letter of the 2d and 3d, from general Washington, and two, of the 25th and 26th September, from general Schuyler, being received, were read.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee sent to headquarters ; and, after debate, the farther consideration thereof was postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *October 5, 1776.*

A letter, of the 23d of Sept. from James Bowdoin, with a copy of resolutions passed by the general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay ; one, of the 24th of the same month, from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire ; and one of the 3d instant from governor Livingston, were read.

*Ordered*, That the letters from general Washington and general Schuyler, with the papers enclosed, which were read yesterday, be referred to the board of war :

That the letter from Mr. Bowdoin be referred to the marine committee :

That the letter from governor Livingston be referred to a committee of three, and that the said committee be directed to take into consideration the case of the prisoners in the gaol of Philadelphia.

The members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Ross, and Mr Floyd.

*Ordered*, That the petition of Jacob Sheafe be referred to the commissioners appointed to hear and determine upon the appeal against the sentence on the libel against the ship Elizabeth :

That R. Peters, esq. be empowered to prosecute the said appeal.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to sell to Joseph Golden, 10 lb. of powder.

*Resolved*, That five months' pay be advanced to the officers and three month's pay to the men who were taken prisoners in Canada, and sent to these United States by general Carlton.

*Resolved*, That the report of the board of war, which was brought in the 14th of September, be taken in consideration on Monday next.

*Ordered*, That the board of war, at that time, lay before Congress, the papers relative to the dispute between the court-martial, and brigadier-general Arnold.

*Resolved*, That the continental agents be directed to deliver to the commissary-general, for the use of the army, all the salt in their hands belonging to the continent.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, October 7, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 8000 dollars be advanced to the committee of Lancaster, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of enclosing the barracks in that borough with a stockade, and supporting a guard ; the said committee to be accountable.

Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy muster-master general for the flying-camp, in the room of Jonathan B. Smith ; and, the ballots being taken,

William Davies was elected.

A letter, of the 14th of September, from brigadier-general Moore, and one from John Hanson, dated St. Croix, 14th August, being received, were read :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the United States, respectively, to annex such penalties, by law, to the crime of counterfeiting the certificates or notes of the continental loan-office, as are or shall be annexed to the crime of counterfeiting the continental currency.

*Ordered*, That the resolutions for borrowing five millions of dollars, together with the above resolve, be published, and copies thereof sent to each of the United States, and that the respective states be desired to send to the committee of the continental treasury, the names of the commissioners by them appointed in consequence of the said resolutions.

A petition from James Browne, a prisoner, was laid before Congress, and read, praying for leave to return to Ireland, the place of his nativity :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

General Lee having informed Congress of his arrival in Philadelphia, and that he waited their orders :

*Ordered*, That general Lee attend in Congress.

*Resolved*, That a commissary of prisoners of war be appointed in each of the United States :

pointed by the said states respectively, which are to be responsible for the faithful discharge of their duty in the said offices :

That the business of the said commissioners shall be to deliver certificates for all such sums of money, as shall be brought into their respective offices, agreeable to these resolutions, which certificates shall be indented and the checks kept in the said office—to keep books, in which regular entries shall be made of the sums borrowed, and the time when, and the names of the persons by whom the said sums were lent—to transmit to the continental treasurer, once a month, an account of the cash in their respective offices, and to answer all draughts of the treasurer to the amount of the cash, which they shall, at any time, have in their hands, as aforesaid :

That the treasurer of the United States shall send to the respective loan-offices, such a number of certificates and of such denominations as shall be ordered by the commissioners of the treasury :

That no certificate be issued for a less sum than 300 dollars :

That the several sums of money to be borrowed, shall be repaid at the office where the same was lent, at the expiration of three years, and that the annual interest shall likewise be paid at the said office :

That the said commissioners of the respective loan-offices be entitled to receive of the United States, one-eighth per cent. on all monies which shall be brought into their respective loan-offices, in lieu of all claims and demands, that they may have for transacting the business of the said office.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered to take such measures, as they shall judge necessary, for purchasing, arming and equipping, a frigate and two cutters, in Europe, and to give proper orders for the said frigate making a cruize in the British channel against our enemies, and for the said cutters to be employed in transporting to these states, such articles, as the said committee have been ordered to import.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, *October 4, 1776.*

A petition from the officers and men of the brig Andrew Doria was presented, and read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the continental agents in Philadelphia be directed, with all despatch, to make an estimate of the prizes taken by the Andrew Doria, and lay the same before the marine committee for their approbation ; and that the said agents be directed to pay to the officers and men of the Andrew Doria, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them :

That the said agents be farther directed to make an estimate of the stores and prizes taken by the fleet, commanded by commodore Hopkins, and brought from Providence, and lay the same before the marine committee for approbation, as aforesaid, and pay to the officers and men entitled thereto, one half of what may be estimated to be due to them.

A letter of the 2d and 3d, from general Washington, and two, of the 25th and 26th September, from general Schuyler, being received, were read.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee sent to headquarters ; and, after debate, the farther consideration thereof was postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *October 5, 1776.*

A letter, of the 23d of Sept. from James Bowdoin, with a copy of resolutions passed by the general assembly of Massachusetts-Bay ; one, of the 24th of the same month, from the committee of safety of New-Hampshire ; and one of the 3d instant from governor Livingston, were read.

**Resolved**, That the letters from general Washington and general Schuyler, and papers enclosed, which were read yesterday, be referred to the board

the letter from Mr. Bowdoin be referred to the marine committee :  
**Resolved**, That the letter from governor Livingston be referred to a committee of three, and that the said committee be directed to take into consideration the case of prisoners in the gaol of Philadelphia.  
**Resolved**, That the members chosen, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Floyd.

**Resolved**, That the petition of Jacob Sheafe be referred to the commissioners to hear and determine upon the appeal against the sentence on the ship Elizabeth :

**Resolved**, That R. Peters, esq. be empowered to prosecute the said appeal.

**Resolved**, That the board of war be directed to sell to Joseph Golden, 10 lb. powder.

**Resolved**, That five months' pay be advanced to the officers and three month's to the men who were taken prisoners in Canada, and sent to these United States by general Carlton.

**Resolved**, That the report of the board of war, which was brought in the 14th September, be taken in consideration on Monday next.

**Resolved**, That the board of war, at that time, lay before Congress, the paper relative to the dispute between the court-martial, and brigadier-general Mifflin.

**Resolved**, That the continental agents be directed to deliver to the commissary-general, for the use of the army, all the salt in their hands belonging to the continent.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, October 7, 1776.

**Resolved**, That 8000 dollars be advanced to the committee of Lancaster, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of enclosing the barracks in that town with a stockade, and supporting a guard ; the said committee to be reimbursed.

Congress proceeded to the election of a deputy muster-master general for the army, in the room of Jonathan B. Smith ; and, the ballots being opened, William Davies was elected.

A letter, of the 14th of September, from brigadier-general Moore, and one from John Hanson, dated St. Croix, 14th August, being received, were read :

**Resolved**, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the United States, respectively, to annex such penalties, by law, to the crime of counterfeiting the certificates or notes of the continental loan-office, as are now annexed to the crime of counterfeiting the continental currency.

**Ordered**, That the resolutions for borrowing five millions of dollars, together with the above resolve, be published, and copies thereof sent to each of the United States, and that the respective states be desired to send to the committee of the continental treasury, the names of the commissioners by them appointed in consequence of the said resolutions.

A petition from James Browne, a prisoner, was laid before Congress, and read, praying for leave to return to Ireland, the place of his nativity :

**Resolved**, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

General Lee having informed Congress of his arrival in Philadelphia, and that he waited their orders :

**Ordered**, That general Lee attend in Congress.

**Resolved**, That a commissary of prisoners of war be appointed in each of the United States :

That the said commissaries be directed to make monthly returns of the number and condition of the prisoners, under their respective care, to the war :

That the said commissaries be appointed by the respective states.

Agreeable to order, general Lee attended ; and having given an account of the state of affairs in the southern department, he withdrew.

The secret committee informed Congress, that they had chartered a ship in Virginia, the Aurora, late the prize-ship called the Oxford, for the transport of the continent : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the president write to the governor and council of the said states, and request them to give all the assistance in their power, in the despatching the said ship.

*Resolved*, That Matthias Hite, a first lieutenant of the eighth Virginia battalion, have a continental commission, in lieu of that which he received from the committee of safety of that state ; and that his commission bear date the 19th of February last.

*Resolved*, That general Lee be directed to repair to the camp at Fort Mifflin, with leave, if he thinks proper, to visit the posts in New-Jersey.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the application of the president of South-Carolina, in behalf of general Lee, reported,

That this Congress, having a just opinion of the abilities of general Lee, had applied to him to accept a command in their service, which he readily accepted, provided the Congress would indemnify him against any loss, which he might sustain in consequence thereof, he having, at that time, a considerable sum of money due to him by persons in the kingdom of Great-Britain, which the Congress resolved to draw from thence as soon as possible. That the Congress unanimously concurred in his proposal : That he accordingly entered into the service ; that he has since drawn bills upon his agent in England, which have been returned protested. That general Lee, having purchased an estate in Virginia, the purchase money for which has been long due, is likely to be enabled by means of the protested bills, many injuries, unless this house provide for him by an advance of thirty thousand dollars : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 30,000 dollars be advanced to general Lee, upon his giving bond to the treasurer to account for the same, and that the steps, in conjunction with Robert Morris, esq. on behalf of the Congress, will secure the most effectual transfer of his estate in England, to the Congress for the advance now made to him.

*Ordered*, That the committee, who brought in the foregoing report, be directed to take a suitable bond.

Congress took into consideration the report of the board of war, and passed the following resolution : instant : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Monsieur Pierre Francois de Bois be commissioned a major by brevet, and sent to general Mercer, to be employed in such manner as the Congress shall think proper :

That Mr. Bartholomew Van Heer's account be referred to the board of treasury.

The committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the miscarriages in the late campaign in Canada, brought in a report :

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition from general Washington of the 24th and 25th of September : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That as a further encouragement for gentlemen of abilities to engage as commission-officers in the battalions to be furnished by the several states, to serve during the war, their monthly pay be increased as follows :

A colonel, 75 ; lieutenant-colonel, 60 ; major, 50 ; captain, 40 ; lieutenant, 30 ; ensign, 20 ; quarter-master, 27½ ; adjutant, 40 dollars.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed. Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *October 8, 1776.*

Letters, of the 4th and 5th, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed; one, of the 4th, from the convention of New-York; one, of the 5th of September, from the council of Massachusetts-Bay; one, of the 2d of September, from John Livingston; and one from John Heyleger, dated St. Croix, September, were read:

*Resolved*, That the letter from John Heyleger be referred to the board of war, and that the letter from John Livingston be referred to the secret committee, who are directed to send to Mr. Livingston's mill, the 10 tons of salt-petre sent last winter to Massachusetts-Bay.

Free petitions from sundry prisoners were read, and referred to the committee on the state of the prisoners.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the said committee.

The member chosen, Mr. Rush.

Whereas it is necessary that the most speedy and effectual measures be taken for raising the new army,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, and councils of safety of the several states, which have any regiments now in the continental service, either at New-York, Ticonderoga, or New-Jersey, that they do appoint committees to proceed to those places, with full powers to appoint all the officers of the regiments to be raised by their states under the new establishment, that such officers may proceed immediately to enlist such men now in the service, and incline to re-enlist during the war, and that the committees be instructed to advise with the general officers, and promote such officers as have distinguished themselves for their abilities, activity, and valour in the service, and especially for their attention to military discipline.

That the said committees be also instructed not to appoint any officer, who is absent, or shall leave his station in the army, and is absent without leave from the general, or some other officer having authority to grant the same.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above resolutions be sent to each of the United States.

Congress resumed the consideration of the reports of the committee on the general's letters, and of that which went to the camp; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That, for the farther encouragement of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall engage in the service during the war, a suit of clothes be annually given each of the said officers and soldiers, to consist, for the present year, of two linen hunting shirts, two pair of overalls, a leathern or wollen waistcoat with sleeves, one pair of breeches, a hat or leathern cap, two pair of hose, and two pair of shoes, amounting, in the whole, to the value of twenty dollars, or that sum to be paid to each soldier, who shall procure those articles for himself, and produce a certificate thereof, from the captain of the company to which he belongs, to the pay-master of the regiment.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the respective states, from Virginia to New-Hampshire, inclusively, to take the most effectual measures for completing, by the 10th of November, their proportions of the levies to be raised during the war.

As the army has greatly suffered through the defect of some of its regimental officers,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the respective states, to use their utmost endeavors that all the officers to be hereafter appointed, be men of honor and known abilities, without a particular regard to their having before been in service.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the reports be postponed till tomorrow.

The secret committee having informed Congress that a vessel with sundry articles by them imported on account of the continent,

*Ordered*, That the said committee deliver to the board of war such as are suitable for the army, and to the marine committee such as are for the navy, and to Mr. J. Mease such as are for clothing, to be made up for the soldiers.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, October 9, 1776.

Two letters of the 3d, from general Schuyler, with sundry papers were laid before Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the board of war, and that the letters before received from general Washington, general Schuyler, and the several officers, be lodged in the war office.

*Resolved*, That two months' pay be advanced to major Pierre Le Boeuf, he to be accountable.

A petition from Jean Baccarere and his partner, was read, and referred to the marine committee.

Application being made in behalf of captain Dirks, late from Surinam, taken into the service of the continent, as an engineer,

*Resolved*, That he be referred to the board of war.

The committee appointed to prepare the form of a bond to be given by general Lee, for the 30,000 dollars advanced to him, brought in a draft, which was read and agreed to.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the petition of the soldiers of the army, who were sent to the camp; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That no regimental hospitals be, for the future, allowed in the neighborhood of the general hospital :

That John Morgan, esq. provide and superintend an hospital, at a convenient distance from the camp, for the army posted on the east side of Hudson's river.

That William Shippen, jun. esq. provide and superintend an hospital, for the army, in the state of New-Jersey :

That each of the hospitals be supplied by the respective directors with a proper number of surgeons, apothecaries, surgeons' mates, and other assistants, and also such quantities of medicines, bedding, and other necessaries, as the directors may judge expedient :

That they make weekly returns to Congress and the commander in chief of the officers and assistants of each denomination, and also the number of the sick and deceased in their respective hospitals :

That the regimental surgeons be directed to send to the general hospital such officers and soldiers of their respective regiments, as, being wounded or otherwise disabled, shall require nurses or constant attendance. And from time to time, to apply to the quarter-master general, or his deputy, for convenient wagons for this purpose; also, that they apply to the directors of their respective departments, for medicines and other necessaries :

That the wages of nurses be augmented to one dollar a week :

That the commanding officer of each regiment be directed, once a week, to send a commissioned officer to visit the sick of his respective regiment in the general hospital, and report their state to him :

That a commissary of clothing be appointed for each of the armies of the United States, whose duty shall be to make constant returns to the assembly or conventions of the respective states, of the clothing wanted for their several regiments, to receive and pay for the same, to deliver it to the paymaster.

...tive regiments, to be by them distributed to the non-commis-  
soldiers, and deducted from their wages respectively, unless  
...order of Congress:

...general be empowered to appoint as many conductors  
...es, and assistants to the commissary of clothing, as  
...ge necessary, and report their names to Congress:  
...quissary of stores for the army at New-York,  
...nth.

...eration of the report be postponed till to-

...800 lb. of powder to col. Mark Bird,  
...ited States.

...ing postponed,

...76.

...apt. Smith, lieut. Steel  
...read.

...of treasury, who are directed  
...in the said petitions, and to pay  
...aken by the enemy in the assault on

...gar was read, praying for leave to resign his  
...German battalion:

...granted.

...Melchior Neff, and one from Paul Fooks, were read,  
...board of war.

...committee having recommended captain Abraham Whipple, of  
...ambus, to the command of the Providence frigate, at Rhode-Island,

...ed, That he be promoted accordingly.

...the committee farther reported, that they have had under consideration the  
...rank of the captains of the navy, and agreed to a report, which was read;  
Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That the rank of the captains be as follows:

1. Jas. Nicholson, of the Virginia, of 28 guns;	15. William Hallock, Lexington 16 guns;
2. John Manly, - Hancock, 32	16. H. Hacker, - Hamden,
3. Hector M'Neil, - Boston, 24	17. Isaiah Robinson, Andrew
4. Dudley Saltonstall, Trumbull, 28	Doria, - - - 14
5. Nicholas Biddle, Randolph, 32	18. John Paul Jones, Providence, 12
6. Thomas Thompson, Raleigh, 32	29. James Josiah,
7. John Barry, - Effingham, 28	20. Elisha Hinman, Alfred, 28
8. Thomas Reed, - Washington, 32	21. Joseph Olney, Cabot, 16
9. Thomas Greemall, Congress, 28	22. James Robinson, Sachem, 10
10. Charles Alexander, Delaware, 24	23. John Young, Indepen-
11. Lambert Wickes, Reprisal, 16	dence, - - - 10
12. Abraham Whipple, Providence, 28	24. Elisha Warner, Fly
13. John Hopkins, Warren, 32	Lieut. Baldwin, Wasp, 8
14. John Hodge, Montgomery, 24	Lieut. Albertson, Musquito, 4

**Resolved,** That the marine committee be empowered to settle the rank of the lieutenants of the navy.

**Resolved,** That a committee of three be appointed to prepare the form of an oath to be taken by the officers of the army and navy:

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Stone, and Mr. Paine.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration;  
Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That general Schuyler be directed to take such steps as are necessary, for procuring a sufficient number of as large vessels as the navigation of the lakes will admit of, for the service of the states the next campaign, that the command of the lakes may be effectually secured:

That William Patten be appointed third lieutenant in colonel Hament, in the place of lieutenant Clark, resigned :

That the regimental pay-masters in the army of the United States rank of first lieutenants, and receive rations as captains :

That general Washington be directed to negotiate with general Exchange of the officers returned from Canada, and that they have preference to those taken on New-York island and Long-Island :

That general Washington be directed, if he shall judge it necessary the new ships mentioned in his letter of the 5th instant.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed. The committee to whom was referred the case of William Faulkner in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That William Faulkner, a prisoner confined at Beadwell, be permitted to return to his family in Tryon county, upon giving his parole.

The committee appointed to devise a plan for providing carriages, &c. in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the quarter-masters in every department be directed to avoid pressing horses and carriages, as much as possible ; and when necessary, that they be directed to go to the country houses for that purpose, and discharge, as soon as the service will admit, such horses and carriages pressed ; and that no violence whatever be done to any persons, their carriages, who go to the camp of their own accord, to sell provisions or necessaries of any kind.

An application from the council of safety of Pennsylvania was read to Congress, and read, desiring that a committee of Congress may be appointed to confer with a committee of their body, on the expediency of having a detachment stationed near the city of Philadelphia, for the defence of Pennsylvania.

*Ordered*, That the board of war confer with the committee of the council of safety, on the subject proposed.

A petition from William Mackay was read, praying for leave to return to his family.

*Ordered*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

*Resolved*, That the following promotions and appointments be made in the Virginia battalions, viz.

William Crawford, colonel of the 7th ; commission to be dated the 1st of August :

Josiah Parker, lieutenant-colonel of the 5th ; commission to be dated the 1st of August :

Thomas Elliott, colonel of the 4th ; commission to be dated the 1st of September.

James Hendricks, lieutenant-colonel of the 6th ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

John Markham, major of the 2d ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

John Seayres, major of the 4th ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

George Johnston, major of the 5th ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

Richard Parker, jun. major of the 6th ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

William Taliaferro, major of the 3d ; commission to be dated the 15th of August :

John Taylor, captain in the 1st ; commission to be dated the 29th of August :

John Chilton, captain in the 3d ; commission to be dated the 29th of August :

John Blackwell, 1st lieutenant in do. commission to be dated the 29th of August :

Joseph Blackwell, 2d lieutenant in do. commission to be dated the 29th of August :

John Ashby, captain in the 3d ; commission to be dated the 18th of March :

William Neilson, 1st lieutenant ; commission to be dated the 18th of March :

Isham Keith, 2d do. commission to be dated the 18th of March :

Nathaniel Ashby, ensign in the 3d ; commission to be dated the 18th of March :

**Read**, an ensign, in the room of Robert Dade.  
**Resolved**, That commissions be made out to all the officers of the regiments in service of the United States, who have been appointed in the places of resigning and promoted, and bear dates the days on which the resignations and promotions were respectively made.  
 A memorial from George Measam was presented to Congress, and read:  
**Ordered**, To lie on the table.  
**Resolved**, That three members be added to the committee of clothing, in the place of those who are absent:  
 The members chosen, Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. Stone and Mr. Penn.  
 Congress took into consideration the report of the board of war of the 19th of September; Whereupon,  
**Resolved**, That the inhabitants of Canada, captivated by the United States, not taken in arms, be released and sent home, except St. Luke la Cornu, Mons. Rouville, the elder, upon this condition, that they sign a parole not to take up arms against the United States, nor give intelligence to the enemies of the states:  
**Ordered**, That a register be kept of their names.  
**Resolved**, That the board of war deliver gun-powder for proving cannon made for the United States, upon application to them for that purpose.  
 The committee of treasury reported, that there is due, to Joseph Donaldson, for supplies to recruits to general Lee's guard, and provisions to captain Grier's company, and a guard with powder to Virginia, 10-90ths dollars:  
 To William Faulkner, a prisoner, sent by general Schuyler to Reading, for allowance from the 9th of April to the 7th of October, inclusive, 26 weeks, 10-90ths dollars, 52 dollars:  
 To captain Hazlewood, captain Greenway and Mr. Bedford, a balance of 10-90ths dollars, their whole account of charge for preparing six sail of ships at New-York, and their expenses going to, in, and coming from, New-York to Philadelphia, being 392 10-90ths dollars; of which they have received of S. Moylan, esq. quarter-master general, 125 dollars; the remainder is 10-90ths dollars.  
**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.  
**Resolved**, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing the commissaries of the army and deputy-commissary of stores.  
 The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *October 11, 1776.*

Two letters, of the 7th and 8th, from general Washington, with sundry papers enclosed, were read: Whereupon,  
**Resolved**, That the release of Mons. de Chambault, as proposed by general Washington, on the request of the count D'Emery, governor-general of the French port of St. Domingo, be agreed to:  
 That the general's letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the board of war.  
**Resolved**, That general Washington be desired, if it be practicable, by every means, and whatever expense, to obstruct effectually the navigation of the Delaware river, between Fort-Washington and Mount-Constitution, as well to prevent the regress of the enemies' frigates lately gone up, as to hinder them from receiving succours.  
 The secret committee informed Congress that a vessel was arrived at Rhode-Island, with sundry articles imported by their order, for account of the United States.

able them to carry on war, and that he had given notice to all loyalists to remove such goods from thence, and that those who would not remove or deliver them to the care of the said Crean Brush, would be considered as abettors of rebels, required him to take into his possession all such goods of that description, and give certificates to the owners that he received them for their use, and would deliver them to the owners, upon accidents excepted, and to seize any such goods, as, upon enquiry, were found secreted, or left in stores, and put them on board of the *Mar* or brigantine *Elizabeth*. That, thereupon, the said Crean Brush, and other persons, took into his possession the goods of the claimants, and others, and put them into the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, and other vessels in the harbour of Boston, without the knowledge of some of the owners, without the consent of all the others, unless it be William Jackson and Jackson, of whose consent, however, there are no other proofs, that some of them went with his goods, and watched there on the wharf from the time they were shipped, and that the other was a passenger in the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, in her voyage towards Halifax. That the said Crean Brush gave certificates under his hands, acknowledged several parcels of the goods in his custody, and engaged to preserve them safely, to make up the value thereof, and, with the approbation of the commander in chief, to deliver them to the owners. That, on the 29th day of March afterwards, the *Peter Ramsay*, by orders from admiral Shulldham, of the British fleet, about eight days before, went on board the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, in order to see some of the claimants' goods had been shifted from the other vessels; and on the same day, between the hours of three and four in the afternoon, sailed from her, under convoy of the British ship of war *Niger*, for Halifax, in Nova Scotia, and that, on the Tuesday following, the said John Manly, in the *Lee*, coming up with the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, which had, in the meantime, parted from her convoy, fired a broadside at her, which was returned by a volley of small arms; when the said Daniel Waters, in the *Lee*, and John Ayres, in the *Lynch*, joining the said John Manly, the said *Peter Ramsay* was struck, it being about four or five of the clock in the afternoon, and the said brigantine was seized and carried into Piscataqua river in New-Hampshire; whereupon, the committee, after mature deliberation, are of opinion, that the said brigantine *Elizabeth* is not comprehended in the description of vessels which, with their cargoes, by the resolutions of Congress of the 22d of November last, may be forfeited, not being an armed or a transport vessel employed in the present war against the United States, nor carrying provisions or other necessaries, to the British army or navy, within any of the Colonies: and that the cases of re-captures, mentioned in the resolutions of Congress of the 5th day of December last, adjusting the proportion of prize, those cases only were intended, in which the vessels and their cargoes remaining in possession of the enemy, might, by the law of nations, be considered as prize, which is conceived not to be the case with the said brigantine *Elizabeth* and her cargo; but, that notwithstanding it was the duty of the captors to recover the said brigantine and her cargo, and that the owners, if otherwise might, and probably would, have lost their whole property, ought to make a reasonable satisfaction; and that, therefore, the said sentence is erroneous, and ought to be reversed and annulled: That the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, and such parts of her cargo as were claimed in the said court-martial, be restored to the respective claimants, upon their paying, to the United States, and the re-captors, 1-12th part of the value thereof, to be determined by the appraisement of appraisers on oath, appointed by the judge of the said court: That the residue of the cargo be sold, and the proceeds, after deducting the like proportion and for the same uses, retained for the persons who shall hereafter prove their right to the same; that William Burk, commander

arines and mariners of the Warren, an armed vessel in the service of the United States, who claimed a part of the said brigantine Elizabeth and her cargo, as being joint captors, are not entitled to a share of the salvage, it being proved that they were not present, or in sight, at the time of the re-capture : That the appellants recover against the claimants their costs as well in the court-maritime, as in the prosecution of their appeal here ; and that the said sentence be sent back to the said court-maritime, for that court to proceed in the execution of this sentence into execution."

The said report being read, was agreed to.

Resolved, That such part of the twelfth, adjudged in the foregoing report to be in lieu of salvage, as belongs to the United States, be released, and the goods be returned to the owners of the goods.

A committee on the state of the prisoners, brought in a report, which was

Resolved, To lie on the table.

The board of treasury, for the more regular settlement of accounts, proposed several queries to Congress : Whereupon,

Resolved, That no allowance be made to officers for any arms lost or taken from them by the enemy :

Resolved, That no officer, holding two appointments in the continental army, be paid more than one, after notice was given to the commanders of the respective regiments of the resolution of Congress against officers holding double commissions.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for supplying the treasury with a farther sum of money :

Members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Hall.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to consider what is to be done with negroes taken by vessels of war, in the service of the United States : Members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Huntington.

Resolved, That 600 dollars be advanced to Mr. R. Erwin, wagon-master ; he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the board of war be directed to order the Virginia troops, on their march to New-York, to halt at Trenton, till farther orders.

Resolved, That the colonels of the New-Jersey militia, make out regular rolls of such of the troops as have been under their command, when called into the continental service, and have not been paid by the convention of the said state :

That such rolls be attested by the oaths of the commanding officer and captains of the respective regiments, and paid by warrants on the pay-master by general Mercer, or the commanding officer in that department ; he to give due attention to the resolutions of Congress transmitted herewith :

That one penny a mile be allowed, in lieu of rations, to such men as have their expenses while on their march to and from the camp, from and to their respective homes.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, October 15, 1776.

Letters of the 11th, 12th, and 13th, from general Washington ; one, of the 10th, from general Lee ; one, of the 10th, from general Schuyler ; one, of the 10th, from general Green ; one, of the 9th, from Joseph Trumbull ; one, of the 4th, from Seth Warner ; and, one of the same date, from brigadier-general Lewis, were read :

Resolved, That the letters from general Washington and general Lee, and Joseph Trumbull, be referred to the board of war :

That the letter from general Green be referred to the medical committee and the letter from general Lewis to the board of treasury.

Application being made to Congress by John Foxcroft, esq. for leave to go to New-York, to remove his family from the horrors of war, and relieve them from the distress in which they are at present involved :

*Resolved*, That leave be granted him, upon giving his parole to the board of war ; but he is not to set out on his journey before next week.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Gates be informed, that Congress have it not in their power at present to supply him with the artillery he desires, but will procure such as soon as possible :

That two independent companies, consisting of 50 men each, be immediately raised, to be commanded by lieutenant Whitecombe, who should be appointed captain-commandant ; that he nominate the officers of the said two companies, who are to be appointed when approved of by the commanding officer in the northern department.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed.

William Davies, who was appointed deputy muster-master general of the flying-camp, having requested leave to resign that commission,

*Resolved*, That leave be granted, and that to-morrow be assigned for appointing a deputy muster-master general for the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That 27 dollars be advanced to the captain of the guard appointed to attend the wagons carrying goods to Ticonderoga.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due to the following persons, the sum of 918 43-90 dollars ; for which an order is to be drawn in favor of Thomas Armour, viz.

To Peter Schlemmer, for victualling the militia on their march to New-Jersey,	Dollars, 43 43-90ths.
To Frederick Rummel, for ditto,	65 49
To William Thompson, victualling gen. Lee's guard,	50 71
To Elizabeth Kuntz, victualling militia, &c.	64 51
To George Stahe, for ditto,	86 54
To Adam Gartner, ditto, and sick soldiers,	260 86
To sundries for supplying the militia, and general Lee's guard,	47 49
To Elizabeth Robinson, for ditto,	12 48
To Andrew Nebbenger, for ditto,	39 86
To Godlup Zegel, for ditto, to gen. Lee's guard,	9 19
To Zacharias Sturgent, for ditto,	8 67
To Martin Brenesey, for ditto,	40
To Frederick Rumble, for ditto,	72 35
To Jacob Bushong, for ditto,	58 27
To Daniel Kyser, for ditto,	29 66
To And. Horzeg, for repairing arms of ditto,	23 15

The whole amounting to Dollars, 913 43-90ths.

To Baltzar Spangler, and to be paid to Thomas Armour, for victualling a part of gen. Lee's guard, nursing in the small-pox, &c. at York-town, and for provisions to militia, 158 dollars and 12-90ths :

To lieut. Francis Nichols, of the late capt. Hendrick's company, for two months' pay extraordinary to the following officers, viz.

To the late captain Hendricks, killed at the assault of Quebec, \$ 53 30-90ths.

To lieutenant John M'Clelland, who died on the march to ditto, 36

To the said lieutenant Nichols, 36

For the use of the executors of capt. Hendrick's inlisting money, when the company was raised, 85, at 1 dollar and 1-Sd each, 113 50

The whole amounting to \$ 238 60

here should be advanced to lieut. Francis Nichols, for the purpose of the soldiers of his company returned from Quebec, the sum of 1753 and 80-90ths, until he can settle the accounts of the company; for this is to be charged:

*Resolved*, That the said sums be paid.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee of treasury:

Members, chosen, Mr. Wythe and Mr. Smith.

A secret committee brought in a report on the distribution of the cargo arrived at Providence, Rhode-Island, in the brig Happy Return; Where-

*Resolved*, That a copy of the invoice of the cloths and blankets be sent to Mifflin, quarter-master general, with an order to Messrs. Browns, of Rhode-Island, to deliver the whole to his order, and that it be recommended to the quarter-master general, to have the cloths immediately made up for the soldiers, either in Rhode-Island, Connecticut, or by the taylor's in the army, as he thought best by general Washington and himself:

Messrs. Browns be directed to deliver to the continental agent, at Rhode-Island, the remaining part of the cargo, with orders to apply the lead, flints, muskets and powder, to the use of the continental frigates and ships, or such part thereof as may be wanted for that service, and the rest for future orders:

The said agent be directed to buy as much good fat beef and pork, as is cured by the salt in his possession, for the use of the navy:

The agent be directed to forward the sulphur of the said cargo to the powder-mills in Connecticut and Rhode-Island, and the five tons of salt formerly sent by Congress from Philadelphia to Rhode-Island, from the powder-mills of Messrs. Livingston and Wisner, on the North side of the state of New-York, to be manufactured into gun-powder, for the continental service.

*Resolved*, That 40,000 dollars be sent to R. Dallam, esq. deputy pay-master, for the use of the flying-camp and militia; he to be accountable.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, *October 16, 1776.*

Letters, of the 9th, from E. Pendleton, speaker of the assembly of Virginia; the 11th, from T. Jefferson, were read:

Also, a letter of the 12th, from Jos. Trumbull, wherein he informs Congress, that he has empowered Carpenter Wharton to purchase salt to the westward of New-Jersey, and as much pork, for the use of the army, as salt can be had for, and requests that Mr. Wharton may be supplied with such sums of money as may be necessary for this purpose, and charged to the accounts of him the said Trumbull:

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wharton be supplied accordingly.

*Resolved*, That 16,803 dollars and 6-90ths be paid to brigadier-general Trumbull, or order, and charged to the account of Jon. Trumbull, jun. Esq. deputy pay-master general in the northern department; the same being in full of a debt in his favor, by John Pierce, assistant pay-master, in behalf of the said Trumbull, dated Albany, October 7, 1776, for so much stopped for him for the pay of the several regiments at Ticonderoga, by the said pay-master. Congress proceeded to the election of a commissary of clothing for the northern army; and, the ballots being taken, George Measam was elected.

*Resolved*, That George Measam be allowed the pay and rations of a major in continental service.

*Resolved*, That the commander in chief of the northern department, appoint such persons to appraise, on oath, and deliver to the said commissary, all

articles of clothing there, belonging to the United States, and transmit his receipts, with the appraisement, to the treasury-office in Philadelphia :

That the said commissary employ suitable persons to make the clothing, and add to the appraised value of the goods, the charges of making ; and that he deliver the same to the regimental pay-masters, agreeable to the orders he may receive from the commander aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to appoint a commissary of clothing for the army under his immediate command, and that he be also empowered to appoint a deputy master-master for the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That one ton of powder be sent to North-Carolina, for the use of the continental forces in that state.

A letter, of the 1st of October, from John Roche, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the marine committee, and that they do therein what they shall think proper.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the state of the prisoners ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That William Livingston, esq. governor of New-Jersey, be informed, that Congress have considered his letter relative to certain prisoners confined in Somerset gaol, and being unacquainted either with their characters, or the causes of their being apprehended, request him to enquire into the same, and report to Congress their names and characters :

That soldiers and sailors, confined in gaol, be hereafter allowed one dollar and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d a week ; the allowance of one dollar being found insufficient to support them comfortably.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be recommitted.

The marine committee, to whom was referred the petition of B. Marshall & Brothers, and certain propositions from the state of Massachusetts-Bay, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That what relates to B. Marshall & Brothers be postponed to Wednesday the 23d instant.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the general court of Massachusetts-Bay, to give the continental agent the full weight of their influence to make the frigate Hancock ready for sea immediately ; that whatever expense shall accrue to the state of Massachusetts-Bay, either for procuring guns or other stores for fitting the said frigate, shall be reimbursed on demand ; and that, in directing the cruise of the said frigate, the Congress will pay all the regard to the protection of the commerce or Massachusetts-Bay, that the zeal of that state, in the common cause, justly entitles it to.

A petition from capt. C. Roberts was read, and referred to Mr. Walton, Mr. Hopkinson, and Mr. F. L. Lee, who are directed to enquire into the facts therein set forth, and report to Congress.

A memorial from the chevalier d'Antignac was read, and referred to the board of war.

A memorial from colonel D. Campbell was read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer in the northern department be desired to confirm or disapprove the sentence of the court-martial on colonel D. Campbell, as he, upon mature judgment, shall think proper, and report to Congress.

Whereas sundry prizes have been heretofore taken by the cruisers fitted out by general Washington, at the continental expense, and on continental accounts, and no accounts thereof have yet been rendered by the agents who received and sold the said prizes ; and, whereas, a just distribution of such shares of the said prizes as are due to the officers and men, agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress, ought to be made ;

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to order such distribution of the said prize-money amongst the parties interested therein ; and that they recover from the said agents the continental share of all the said prizes :

the present continental agents do account with the marine committee, from time to time, for the continental share of all prizes received and sold by them; and that they pay the amount of such prizes to the order of the said committee:

the said agents make just distributions of the shares in all prizes that may come to the officers and crews of the continental ships of war, agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress, as soon after the sales of each prize as may be possible:

the marine committee apply all the prize-money they receive from the prizes to the service of the marine department, and hereafter render accounts to Congress:

the marine committee report, from time to time, all sums of money they receive for prizes to the treasury, in order that the same may be charged to the account in the treasury-books.

A committee of treasury reported, that there is due, to Capt. Sion Martindale and lieutenant Moses Turner, for their pay and from the 1st of January to the 14th of October, 1776, the sum of 572 dollars.

Resolved, That the said account be paid.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *October 17, 1776.*

Petition from Henry Keppeler was laid before Congress, and read, setting forth that he hath entered an appeal against the sentence passed on the ship *Long-Peggy*, and praying that a convenient day may be assigned for hearing said appeal:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, with full power to hear and determine upon said appeal:

members chosen, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Wilson.

Resolved, That a committee of four be appointed to review such of the resolutions of Congress as relate to the capture and condemnation of prizes, and what alterations or additions should be made respecting the same:

members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Huntington.

Petition from Carpenter Wharton was read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the council of safety of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a commissary be appointed to supply the battalion, commanded by Colonel Mackay, with provisions; the ballots being taken, William Blaine, esq. was elected.

Resolved, That Francis Lewis, jun. be permitted to go to the state of New-York with Mr. Foxcroft.

A committee, to whom the report on the state of the prisoners in the gaol at Philadelphia, was re-committed, brought in a farther report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the prisoners from North-Carolina be permitted to return to their families, if the convention of that state shall be of opinion they may so do without danger to that or any other of the United States; and, in the mean time, that bedding, blankets, and other necessaries, be furnished the gaoler, by the committee, for the use of such prisoners as are unprovided with them:

Resolved, That Capt. M'Kenzie be permitted to apply to the state of North Carolina for a return there; and, in the mean time, that he be allowed ten dollars to bear his expenses to Lancaster county:

Resolved, That lieutenant M'Clean, an half-pay officer, taken in Canada, be permitted to remain at Reading on his parole.

**Resolved,** That a committee of intelligence be appointed to select and report such authentic accounts, as are, from time to time, received by Congress, of the state of the armies and navy of the United States, as they shall judge proper to be published by authority of Congress:

The members chosen, Mr. Rush, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Hopkinson.

**Resolved,** That a committee be appointed to bring in a plan for the better regulating the treasury board:

The members chosen, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Livingston, and Mr. Hopkinson.

Mr. Duche having, by letter, informed the president, that the state of his health, and his parochial duties, were such, as obliged him to decline the honour of continuing chaplain to Congress,

**Resolved,** That the president return the thanks of this house to the Rev. Mr. Duche, for the devout and acceptable manner in which he discharged his duty during the time he officiated as chaplain to it; and that 150 dollars be presented to him, as an acknowledgment from the house of his services.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To captain A. H. Brice, for his allowance as an officer-prisoner, from 19th April, to 17th October, 1776, inclusive, being 26 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 52 dollars:

To captain Thomas Hesketh, for his allowance from 20th July to 19th October, 13 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 26 dollars:

To George Haas, for the hire of his wagon and his expenses with money from Philadelphia to Boston, the sum of 131 24-90 dollars:

To colonel Hausegger, for the expenses of himself and two prisoners from Ticonderoga to Philadelphia, 57 9-90 dollars:

To capt. Matthew Smith, to be paid to lieut. Archibald Steel, for inlisting his company, consisting of 80 men, at 1 dollar and  $\frac{3}{4}$ d each, 106 60-90 dollars:

That they have examined the accounts exhibited by lieut. Archibald Steel, of capt. Smith's company, for the pay of 34 officers, and of adjutant Christian Febiger, taken prisoners at Quebec, amounting to 1575 30-90 dollars, (exclusive of the pay of one serjeant, one corporal and 12 privates, who inlisted in the service of the king of Great-Britain, amounting to 476 60-90 dollars which is retained) of which he received from Mr. J. Mease, the sum of 314 30-90 dollars, which leaves a balance due to the said Steel of 1261 dollars:

That there is due, to George Steyer, for linens furnished, and to be charged to capt. John Nelson for the use of his company, 24 dollars:

To Adam Zantzinger, for the hire of two wagons, and the expense of an escort of light-horse with money from Philadelphia to the camp, near New-York, 150 60-90 dollars:

To William Clayton, for provisions supplied militia on their march to New-Jersey, 24 27-90 dollars:

To John Bates, for 499 camp-kettles delivered by him to Gustavus Risberg, assistant to the deputy quarter-master general, 665 30-90 dollars:

To William Bentley, to be paid to col. Stricker, for provisions supplied the Virginia troops on their march, 17 54-90 dollars:

To Joseph Bentley, for provisions supplied the militia and flying-camp, on their march to New-Jersey, 19 72-90 dollars:

To Nicholas Bazin, a Canadian prisoner, for his allowance from 3d March to 17th October, is 32 weeks and 5-7ths, at 2 dollars a week, 65 38-90 dollars.

**Ordered,** That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, October 18, 1776.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That Thaddens Kosciuszko be appointed an engineer in the ser-

the United States, with the pay of sixty dollars a month, and the rank of lieutenant.

A committee to whom the petition of col. M. Hazen was referred, brought in a report, which was read.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed; adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, October 21, 1776.**

Letters, of the 14th and 17th, from R. Harrison, the general's secretary; the 18th, from general Washington, enclosing the copy of a letter from general Arnold, and other papers; two, of the 17th and 19th, from gen. Merriam, and one from Kenneth Hankanson, captain of a vessel stranded on the shore, were laid before Congress, and read:

Resolved, That they be referred to the board of war.

A letter of the 13th, from R. Dallam, was also read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That 19,740 dollars be paid to Gustavus Risberg, assistant to the quarter-master general for the flying camp, and charged to the account of R. Dallam:

500,000 dollars be sent to Jon. Trumbull, esq. deputy pay-master general for the northern department:

2,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of North-Carolina, and sent to that state.

A letter, of the 5th, from colonel James Easton, was read.

A secret committee having informed Congress that a vessel was arrived in Hampshire, with a cargo on account of the continent, among which was a quantity of flints, it was thereupon,

Resolved, That the secret committee be directed to order 30,000 of the said powder to general Schuyler, for the use of the army in the northern department, and the remainder to general Washington, for the use of the army under his separate command.

A letter, of the 20th, from general Green, was read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the board of war, and that they be directed to apply to the council of safety of Pennsylvania for the loan of as many carriages as they can spare, which are to be sent, with all possible despatch, to general Washington, and that they take the most effectual measures to have a great quantity of cartridges made up in Philadelphia, and forwarded to general Washington.

Resolved, That the powder in the magazine be kept for the public service.

Congress being informed that there is, at the lead mines in Virginia, a quantity of lead for the use of the continent,

Resolved, That the board of war be directed to give orders to have it brought to Philadelphia.

A memorial from Monsieur Dorre was presented to Congress and read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the marine committee.

Letters, of the 20th, from R. Harrison, enclosing copies of letters from general Mifflin and general Arnold, of the 15th, and one from general Schuyler, of the 16th, also, one of the 16th, from general Schuyler, and one of the 19th, from the convention of New-York, being received, were read:

Resolved, That they be referred to the board of war.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; and upon,

Resolved, That the deputy commissary-general in Virginia be directed to make contracts for the supply of the troops in that department, provided they be made at a rate not exceeding eight pence, Virginia currency, a ration, and drivers to have the use of the public wagons on any motion or march of any army, from the place or places where stationed:

That the commander in chief of each department be empowered, at the in-

stance of the commissary-general, or his deputies, to employ any under him or them, at such salary or wages as he shall think adequate he may think the service, from time to time, requires:

That the rations allowed to the several officers on the staff in the United States, not heretofore settled, be as follows, and that the commissary of Virginia be informed thereof:

To the deputy commissary-general, 6 rations; deputy quartermaster, 6 do. deputy pay-master general, 6 do. deputy adjutant-general, 6 do. deputy muster-master general, 6 do. deputy judge advocate, 6 do. do. regimental surgeon, 3 do. surgeon's mate, 2 do. that the deputy commissary-general of Virginia be allowed his reasonable travelling charges settled by the treasury board.

The committee of treasury reported, that they have examined the accounts paid by John Gibson, esq. auditor-general, by order of Congress, amounting to 687 27-90 dollars; of which he received, by the present warrant, 500 dollars, and there remains due to him 187 27-90 dollars.

For parchment for the use of the treasury office,	-	-
George Hofnagle's account for 15 of the militia,	-	-
John Sparhawk's account for quills, paper-books, &c. for the use of the commissioners sent to Albany,	-	-
Henry Deering's account for entertaining militia,	-	-
Andrew Smith's account for do.	-	-
Joseph Sheerer's account for do. paid T. Wygins	-	-
John Druit, for Bernard Romans' order, to be charged to the said Romans,	-	-
Conrad Alster's account for entertaining militia,	-	-
Philip Upright's do. for do. and guard of powder to Virginia,	-	-
John Nice's do. for do.	-	-
Levi Hollingsworth's account for escorting money to Amboy,	-	-
William Perkins, for supplies to troops,	-	-
Porterage of a box with the Massachusetts papers	-	-
Captain Read's account of expenses of his company on their march to camp,	-	-
Captain Wheely's account of do.	-	-
Captain M'Kenzie, for subsistence,	-	-
M. Lotbiner, a French chaplain, one month's pay and rations,	-	-
Benjamin Condry, for cake-ink,	-	-
Thread for the use of the office,	-	-
Secretary Peter's order for transporting lieutenant Symes's baggage	-	-
Allen M'Donald, sen. Allen M'Donald, jun. Alexander M'Donald	-	-
Rennel M'Donald, for three weeks' allowance to themselves, and two servants, to 24th September,	-	-
William Ross's account of subsistence to militia,	-	-
Valentine Vanholt's account of do.	-	-
R. Lumsden, for wood, hauling, and sawing,	-	-
John Streeper's account for subsisting militia,	-	-
Postage of a letter from Ticonderoga,	-	-
M. Lotbiner, one month's pay and rations,	-	-
Allen M'Donald, for the hire of a woman-servant, allowed him from the 4th June to 24th September, 16 weeks,	-	-
John M'Kinzie, a prisoner from North-Carolina, his allowance from 20th September to 17th October, 4 weeks,	-	-
Bortholomew Van Heer's account of disbursements to the army in Canada, and 6 months' pay as lieutenant,	-	-
Uriah Forrest, captain of a company in colonel Irvine's battalion, furnishing 86 men, non-commissioned officers and privates, with	-	-

ons, from Annapolis to Philadelphia, 115 miles, at 1d. a mile,  
also to one captain and three subalterns, 115 miles at 9d.

In the whole, 121 35

Total, 687 27

Of which received, 500

The balance due, 187 27

ere is due to Robert Jewel, for the maintenance of state prisoners in  
gaol, and for candles, &c. 489 43-90 dollars:

late captain William Hendrick's company, and to be paid to lieut.  
Nichols of the said company, for the balance of an account for their  
lost at the storm of Quebec, hunting-shirts, &c. 1622 22-90 dollars:

Pollard, for the expense of himself and others of the light-horse, as  
with money from Philadelphia to New-York and Boston, 291 57-90

Job Hartman, for the hire of his wagon bringing the baggage of the  
from Canada, from Elizabeth-town to Philadelphia, 16 60-90 dollars:

an Hall and Samuel Parker, for cleansing and repairing 200 muskets  
onets, scabbards, &c. for the German battalion, 215 78-90 dollars:

xe, Furman & Coxe, for carriage of powder from Philadelphia to Vir-  
d the pay of captain Matthias for taking charge of the same, 233 81-90

ed, That the said accounts be paid.

ess took into consideration the form of the oath to be taken by the  
in the service of the continent, which was agreed to as follows:

—, do acknowledge the Thirteen United States of America, namely,  
ampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York,  
rsey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina,  
arolina, and Georgia, to be free, independent, and sovereign states,  
lare, that the people thereof owe no allegiance or obedience to George  
d king of Great-Britain; and I renounce, refuse and abjure any alle-  
or obedience to him; and I do swear, that I will, to the utmost of my  
support, maintain, and defend the said United States against the said  
eorge the third, and his heirs and successors, and his or their abettors,  
ts and adherants; and will serve the said United States in the office  
—, which I now hold, and in any other office which I may hereafter  
their appointment, or under their authority, with fidelity and honor,  
ording to the best of my skill and understanding. So help me God."

ved, That every officer who holds, or shall hereafter hold, a commis-  
office from Congress, shall subscribe the above declaration, and take  
going oath.

ved, That 100,000 dollars be sent to the deputy pay-master general in  
a.

several matters to this day referred being postponed,  
urned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

## TUESDAY, October 22, 1776.

tter from general Mifflin to captain Falkner was laid before Congress  
ad:

ered, That it be referred to a committee of three, and that they be di-  
to engage, and send to head-quarters, a skilful, active wharf-builder,  
proper assistants:

members chosen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Ross.

committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Monsieur O. H. Rouville, his servant P. H. Beaubassin, J. B. H. de Rouville, Joseph de Jarlais, and Joseph and Gabriel Heiter, for their allowance from the 13th of July to the 18th of October, 1776, 186 60-90 dollars:

That they have examined the accounts of D. S. Franks for sundry goods supplied the army in Canada, amounting to 3748 84-90 dollars; of which he received a warrant of the 7th of September, for 1600 dollars, and that there is a balance now due to him of 2148 84-90 dollars:

That there is due to Nathan Sellers, for a paper-mould, letters and borders, 39 dollars:

That there should be advanced to col. Hollingsworth, the sum of 1626 60-90ths dollars, for supplies of rations, and wagons for the Virginia battalions, from the Head-of-Elk to Chester; he to be accountable:

*Ordered*, That the said sums be paid.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That general Schuyler's application to the eastern states, and to the state of New York, for their militia, is approved:

That the resolution for sending home the Canadians, be suspended till further orders:

That the board of war order the several prisoners, in Philadelphia, to the places of their destination, and that they write to the several committees, who have the charge of prisoners, not to suffer them to go beyond the bounds allowed them, nor to permit any of them to come to Philadelphia, without leave first obtained from the board of war.

*Resolved*, That Mrs. Antil, with her child, and sister, Miss Colden, be permitted to go to general Mercer, who is desired to permit them to proceed to New-York, taking especial care, that they carry no intelligence to the enemy.

The secret committee reported, that the cargo lately arrived at Portsmouth, in the brig Marquis of Kildare, captain Palmer, consists of the following articles, viz. 5000 lb powder, 250 small arms, 100,000 flints, 4000 yards of small canvass, 4 to 500 jackets, 100 knapsacks, 100 leggins, 80 large rugs, 2 bales of woollens, 1 bale of linens, and 10 tons of lead; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the powder, 100 small arms, 2000 flints, part of the canvass, 80 rugs, and part of the lead, be applied by the continental agent for the use of the continental frigate Rawleigh:

That 60,000 flints be sent to general Washington:

That 38,000 flints, 150 small arms, 100 knapsacks, 100 leggins, and 8 tons of lead, be sent to the northern army, under general Schuyler and general Gates:

That the remainder of the canvass be made into tents, and sent to the northern army:

That the jackets, if fit for soldiers, be sent to the northern army; if fit for sailors, that they be distributed amongst the continental frigates at Portsmouth and Boston:

That the two bales of woollens be made up into soldier's clothes, for the northern army:

That the bale of linens, if fit for soldiers' shirts, or other purposes, for the army, be made up, and sent to the northern army; if not suitable for public use, that they be sold to the best advantage.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of Charles Roberts, brought in a report, which was read, and disagreed to.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, October 23, 1776.

Congress being informed, that a vessel from London to Quebec, laden with

**ed,** among which are a quantity of blankets and coarse cloths, fit for clothing, was lately taken, and brought to Rhode-Island:

**ed,** That gov. Cooke be requested immediately to purchase, at con- expense, for the use of the army under gen. Washington, all the said and cloths; that the blankets be sent to general Washington, and is made up, agreeable to the directions of brigadier-general Mifflin, master general.

**ed,** That the committee of clothing forward the above resolution, and t general Washington and brigadier- general Mifflin therewith.

**ed** That two more brigadier generals be appointed:

ballots being taken, colonel William Maxwell, and colonel William od, were elected.

in resolutions, passed by the convention of Maryland, respecting the the eight battalions allotted to their state, were laid before Congress, d:

**red,** That they be referred to a committee of three, who are directed to an answer thereto.

members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Paine and Mr. Rutledge.

**ved,** That it be referred to the board of war, to consider in what way De Roche Fermoy may be employed in the service of the continent:

the application in favour of lieutenant Von Hederich be referred to the f war:

Samuel Fairlamb's account be referred to the board of treasury, committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

Joseph Borden, esq. for wagonage, boat-hire, &c. transporting carpen- d their baggage from Philadelphia to Powleshook, after deducting two , and the sum of 23 30-90 dollars, for the hire of a four-horse team of m Allen, deducted for want of a voucher, and two dollars paid by capt. rp, 94 dollas.

t they have examined the account of Elihu Spencer, for his salary, as a nary to North-Carolina, from the 14th of December, 1775, to the 4th of 1776, being 4 months and 21 days, at 40 dollars a month, 186 45-90 s.

at the said missionary ought to be allowed, in addition to his salary, 16 s per month, which is 75 18-90 dollars:

at he received a warrant of the 20th of December last, for 120 dollars, at there is now due to him, the sum of 141 63-90 dollars.

at there is due to Alexander M'Whorter, missionary to North-Carolina e like time, at the salary of 40 dollars, and allowance of 16 dollars a n, after deducting 120 dollars he received, the sum of 141 63-90 dollars:

at there is due to adjutant Christian Ferbiger and lieutenant Archibald , and to be paid to the latter, for 2 months' extraordinary pay to Ferbiger, dollars and 1-3d, - - - - - *Dolls.* 36 60-90ths.

r two months' ditto, to Steel, as lieutenant, at 18 dollars, 36

r 8 months' 22 days, to ditto, as adjutant, from the 9th of

ember, to the 1st of August, 1776, at 18 dollars and 1-3d, 160 10-90ths,

The whole amounting to - *Dolls.* 252 70-90ths.  
at there is due to John Dunlap, for 97 reams of cartridge paper, sent to nderoga, 523 dollars and 30-90ths:

o Alexander Rutherford, for 100 bayonet scabbards supplied captain R. ner, of the 5th Virginia regiment, 40 dollars:

o captain Hendrick Smock, for expenses of a guard and prisoners, from l-quarters, New-Jersey, to Philadelphia, 44 dollars and 18-90ths:

o Rene O. H. de Rouville, a Canadian prisoner, for his allowance from 16th January to 13th July last, 25 weeks and 5-7ths, at 2 dollars a week, dollas and 38-90ths:

For his servant's allowance, 25 weeks and 5-7ths, 34 dollars and 25-90ths:

Amounting to 85 dollars and 63-90ths:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Upon application of the delegates of Delaware,

*Resolved*, That 120 dollars be advanced to captain John Woodgate, of colonel Patterson's battalion, he to account for the same with the pay-master of the said battalion.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of colonel M. Hazen; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 966 dollars and 2-3ds be paid to colonel Moses Hazen, for his farming, smith's and potash, carpenters, joiners, coopers, and stave-maker's tools, and for anchors and cables, said to be taken by, and appropriated to, the use of the army under general Montgomery:

That the regiment under the command of the said colonel Hazen, remain on the original establishment thereof, and be recruited to its full complement in any of the thirteen United States, as it was upon these terms he entered into the service, and the said regiment cannot be said to belong to any particular state, nor to be any additional expense in the mode of officering the same.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, October 24, 1776.

A petition from William Moore and one from William Rigg, were presented to Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the marine committee; and that the said committee furnish them with subsistence during their residence in Philadelphia.

Application being made in behalf of Samuel Horlock and — Livingston, esq. for leave to go to Boston, and from thence back to New-York:

*Resolved*, That leave be granted them on giving their parole.

*Resolved*, That an order for 133 dollars and 1-3d, be drawn on the treasurer in favor of R. Peters, Esq. secretary to the board of war, to pay for a light wagon purchased for the use of the Congress, and that he be empowered to purchase another light wagon.

*Resolved*, That 500 dollars be advanced to the committee appointed to contract with, and send an active wharf-builder, and proper assistants to general Washington, for the use of the said wharf-builders.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to order the Virginia battalions to march to Trenton, and there halt until farther orders.

A representation from the council of safety of Pennsylvania to the board of war, was laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A memorial from D. Franks was laid before Congress and read, desiring leave for himself, and Patrick Rice, his clerk, to go to New-York, in order to lay his receipts and vouchers for the provisions furnished to the British prisoners, before the commissary-general, and obtain certificates to be presented to, and signed by, the general of the British forces, without which he cannot be reimbursed.

*Resolved*, That leave be granted them, upon giving their parole, not to give any intelligence to the enemy, and that they will return to this city.

A petition of Benjamin Eyre, was read.

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Paine, and Mr. F. L. Lee.

A petition from captain Anstruther, a prisoner, and one from Simon Carbo-lais, were read.

*Resolved*, That they be rejected:

*Resolved*, That 5000 dollars be advanced to E. Blaine, esq. for the use of the battalion raised on the western frontiers of Pennsylvania; he to be accountable.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, October 25, 1776.**

Letter, of the 21st, from R. H. Harrison was read; also, a certificate from Major-general H. Mercer and P. Dickinson, in favour of the Rev. John A. G. who officiated as chaplain to nine battalions of New-Jersey:

**Resolved,** That the certificate be referred to the board of treasury, and that they enquire how long Mr. Nevelling officiated, as mentioned in the said certificate, and allow him for his services, at the rate of 50 dollars a month.

A petition from Alice Brazier and daughter, Hannah Haynes and Elizabeth was presented to Congress, and read:

**Resolved,** That it be referred to the board of treasury.

**Resolved,** That 3,000 dollars be advanced to colonel Moses Hazen towards his battalion, he to be accountable.

Letter, of the 20th, from P. Zabriskie and J. Morgan, was read.

**Resolved,** That it be referred to the board of treasury.

A memorial from Mr. Irwin was presented to Congress, and read.

**Resolved,** That it be referred to a committee of three, and that they confer with the council of safety of Pennsylvania, respecting the same, and report to Congress:

Members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Whipple, and Mr. Hart.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

Robert Chase, late commander of the Gaspe ship of war, for his allowance from 1st March to 24th October, 1776, inclusive, 34 weeks, at 2 dollars, 40 cents.

That they have examined an account exhibited by captain Robert Cluggage, of dry articles charged to him, which he prays an allowance of, and that he be credited for the following sums, charged in the Bedford county account, viz.

Expenses for haversacks, account No. 1,	-	-	£6	5	10
Value of articles charged in account No. 31,	-	-	1	13	6
Amount paid Bernard Dougherty	-	-	0	15	0
Overcharge in a rifle bought of William Peeble,	-	-	0	10	0
Charge of Abraham Cable, esq. in additional account No. 2,	-	-	3	7	4
Expenses for firing arms, charged in colonel Irwin's account, per vouchers No. 7 and 8,	-	-	9	2	5
Personal expenses which he paid for his company, on their march from Bedford to Boston	-	-	9	7	9

The whole amounting to 82 82-90 dollars, £31 1 10

For John Mitchel, for expenses of a party of light-horse, going with money from Philadelphia to Ticonderoga, a balance of £32 16 6, and for coach-hire, expenses, &c. for himself and Mr. Dunlap, as a guard with general Prescott and Major-general M'Donald, and their two servants, to New-York, to be expended, £78 17 6, both sums amounting to £109 15, equal to 292 60-90 cents.

That there should be advanced to Mr. Hodgkin and Mr. Cronstedt, two German prisoners, three weeks' allowance each, at 2 dollars, 12 cents.

For Roger Sherman, esq. for the expenses of the committee appointed to enquire into the state of the army at New-York, and two servants ten days allowance, £6 70-90 dollars, to be paid to Elbridge Gerry, esq.

**Resolved,** That the said accounts be paid.

**Resolved,** That two months' pay be advanced to lieutenant David Zeigler,

who was wounded, and is come to Philadelphia for the purpose of perfecting his cure.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several assemblies and conventions of the United States, forthwith to import, or otherwise procure, full supplies of fire-arms, bayonets, brass, or other field-pieces, powder, lead, flints, medicines, entrenching tools, tent-cloth, blankets, and other clothing, for such of their militia as are deficient therein, and to send to the board of war and ordnance a copy of their resolutions for this purpose, that the same may be laid before Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, October 28, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 1,000 dollars be advanced to the committee appointed to engage wharf-builders, for the use of the workmen engaged, and that they render an account of the expenditure.

A letter of the 17th, from general Schuyler, was read, together with the report of a court of enquiry appointed to discover what stores were on board the enemy's fleet taken in the river St. Lawrence :

*Ordered*, That the report be referred to the board of treasury.

A letter of the 6th, from brigadier Andrew Lewis, was read, and referred to the board of war.

A petition from William Savage, Thomas Corbett, and John Scott, in behalf of William Wilson, together with sundry papers therein referred to, were read and referred to the marine committee.

A letter, of the 16th, from the convention of New-York, and a letter from Thomas Cushing, dated in August, were read :

*Ordered*, That the last be referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

*Resolved*, That M. du Bois, upon resigning his commission, have leave to return to Martinico.

Congress, being informed that certain persons were busy in monopolizing and engrossing the articles necessary for the army, with a view to enhance their price, and prevent the army from being supplied,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into this matter, and report thereon to Congress :

The members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Gerry, and Mr. Rutledge.

The committee, to whom the memorial of Matthew Irwin was referred, reported, that they have conferred with the council of safety of Pennsylvania, who say they have some salt, the quantity they cannot ascertain, which they are willing to sell for the use of the army :

*Ordered*, That the said committee apply to the council of safety, and request them to sell to Mr. M. Irwin, for the use of the army, as much salt as they can possibly spare.

The marine committee brought in a report, which was read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be empowered to employ such persons as they shall think proper, to execute the business entrusted to them, and report their names to Congress :

That the further consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Thomas Dunahoo, a Canadian prisoner, for his allowance from 15th July to 25th October, instant, 15 weeks, at 1 dollar and  $\frac{3}{4}$  a week, 20 dollars :

To captain William Brady, of the late colonel Stevenson's battalion, for twelve rifles, purchased by him for the use of his company, 177 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, October 29, 1776.**

ress being informed that Tim. Dodd, an express from Boston, who was  
ed with despatches from general Washington, has had them stolen from  
Bristol, in this state,

**Resolved,** That a committee of two be appointed, with powers to make every  
ry enquiry, and to take every necessary step they think proper, for the  
y of the said despatches, and the discovery of the person or persons by  
said papers were stolen; that if they have good reason to suspect any  
or persons, they immediately secure them till the further orders of  
ss, and return their names, with the causes of suspicion, to this house;  
ey dispose of the continental prisoners at Bristol in such manner as  
all think best:

all civil officers be requested, and all continental military officers be  
l, to afford every assistance that may be required by the said committee.  
members chosen, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Hopkinson.

**Resolved,** That colonel Cadwallader and colonel Bayard be requested to  
pany the said committee to Bristol.

**Resolved,** That 40,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. J. Mease for the public  
; he to be accountable.

6000 dollars be advanced to colonel Buckner, of the 6th Virginia bat-  
for the use of the said battalion; he to be accountable.

**Resolved,** That Charles Hughes have leave to go to the West-Indies in the  
er Thistle.

letter from Mr. Bache was read:

**Resolved,** That it be referred to a committee of three.

members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Payne, and Mr. Livingston.

ereas the fortifying the entrance of the river Cape-Fear, in the state of  
-Carolina, will tend greatly to the advantage and security of that state,  
nishing a safe harbor for foreigners, and excluding the enemy's ships:

**Resolved, therefore,** That it be recommended to the convention of the state  
rth-Carolina, to fortify and secure immediately, at the expense of their  
the entrance of the said river, by erecting batteries and other works of  
ce, by placing obstructions in proper parts of the said river, and pursuing  
other measures, as, in their opinion, will best conduce to prevent the in-  
ction of the enemy's ships, and protect the trade of the said state; and,  
e heavy cannon cannot be procured in the state of North-Carolina, it is  
er recommended to the said convention, to apply to the state of South-  
ina, requesting the loan of such cannon as they can spare from their own  
ities, who, it is not doubted, will contribute, as far as may be in their  
r, to accomplish a purpose which will be of general utility to the southern

ngress resumed the consideration of the report of the marine committee:  
reupon,

**Resolved,** That no private ship or vessel of war, merchant-ships, or other  
ls belonging to the subjects of these states, be permitted to wear pendants  
in company with continental ships or vessels of war, without leave from  
ommanding officer thereof.

at, if any merchant-ship or vessel shall wear pendants in company with  
nental ships or vessels of war, without leave from the commander thereof,  
commander be authorized to take away the pendant from the offender.

at, if private ships or vessels of war refuse to pay the respect due to the  
nental ships or vessels of war, the captain or commander, so refusing, shall  
his commission.

**Resolved,** That the further consideration of the report be postponed till to-  
row.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**WEDNESDAY, October 30, 1776.**

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Mr. Allen, for his expenses while detained here for the purpose of taking charge of the money for Virginia, the sum of 17 20-90 dollars :

That a farther sum of 77 46-90 dollars be paid to Mr. Fairlamb, which will be the balance due to him on his account as it now stands, exclusive of his request for a farther allowance on the ration-stipulation in his contract, and of 27 cords of wood, not allowed for want of vouchers :

*Ordered,* That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved,* That the sum of 30 dollars be paid to captain Moore, to enable him to proceed to Europe.

A letter of this day from colonel M. Hazen was read ; also, a petition from Andrew Stalker, late commander of the brig Three Friends, praying for leave to depart the states of America, and revisit his native country.

*Resolved,* That the prayer of the petition be granted.

A petition from John Tillman was read.

A letter, of the 25th, from governor Livingston was read, and referred to Dr. Rush, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Lynch.

*Resolved,* That 2000 dollars be advanced to colonel Scott, of the 5th Virginia battalion, for the use of the said battalion, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,* That 2000 dollars be advanced to colonel Hausegger, of the German battalion, for the use of the said battalion, he to be accountable.

The board of war having recommended Jacob Myle to be quarter-master, and Eberhart Michael, pay-master to the German battalion ;

*Resolved,* That they be accepted, and commissions granted to them accordingly.

Mr. Duche having, by a letter to the president, acknowledged his obligations for the kind manner in which Congress have expressed their approbation of his service, and requested, as he accepted their appointment from motives perfectly disinterested, that the 150 dollars voted to him, may be applied to the relief of the widows and children of such of the Pennsylvania officers, as have fallen in battle in the service of their country :

*Resolved,* That the money be deposited with the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to be applied agreeable to the request of Mr. Duche.

A memorial from Robert Jewell was read :

*Ordered,* That it be referred to the committee on governor Livingston's letter.

*Resolved,* That 133½ dollars be advanced to Evans and Stretch, the commanding officers of the guard going with money and clothing for the northern army, they to be accountable.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Mons. Pierre Gamelin, a prisoner from Canada, for his allowance from 26th March to 28th October, inclusive, being 31 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 62 dollars :

To Marcus Lucullus Ryal, a prisoner, for his allowance from 22d August to 24th October, inclusive, 9 weeks, at 2 dollars, 18 dollars :

To lieutenant Jacob Schalch, a prisoner, for his allowance from 19th July to 25th October, inclusive, 14 weeks, at 2 dollars, 28 dollars :

To Dr. James Gill, a prisoner, for his allowance from 19th July to 25th October, inclusive, 14 weeks, at 2 dollars, 28 dollars :

To lieutenant Simon Evans, a prisoner, for his allowance from 23d August to 18th October, inclusive, 8 weeks, at 2 dollars, 16 dollars :

To Pelatiah Webster for 200 lbs. rhubarb, 600 dollars :

To Alexander Middleton, of the 5th Virginia battalion, for his account of

es, board, nursing, and necessaries for the sick of the said battalion, 20 dollars :

*Resolved*, That the said accounts be paid.

committee, to whom were referred the resolutions of the convention of Maryland, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Where-

*Resolved*, That the president write to the convention of Maryland, and inform them, that their resolutions relative to their paying ten dollars in lieu of acres of land, determined by Congress to be given to such non-commissioned officers and soldiers as shall enlist to serve during the war, will, in the opinion of this house, if carried into execution, prove extremely detrimental to the states, as it will, in all probability, induce such soldiers as are to leave the remainder of the levies, to require an equal sum from the United States, and by refusing to enlist until their demands shall be complied with, oblige the Congress to the immediate payment of an additional bounty, far beyond what is reasonable :

That this house, being satisfied with the propriety of offering land to the soldiery, as an inducement to enlist in the service, cannot rescind the said resolution, and are of opinion, that the faith, which this house, by virtue of the oaths with which they were vested, has plighted, must be obligatory upon their constituents ; that no one state can, by its own act, be released therefrom, and that the interest of the United States would be deeply and injuriously affected, should the Congress, at this time, consent to a compromise between any state and the forces to be by them raised :

That the said convention, by their said resolutions, seem to apprehend, that any state would be obliged, in their individual capacity, to make good the deficiency of land hereafter to be given to the soldiery ; whereas, it was the intention of Congress to provide the said land at the expense of the United States : That the said convention be requested to reconsider the said resolutions, and to give to their commissioners, appointed to repair to the camp, such instructions as will enable them to carry into execution the views of Congress : That the said convention be informed, that the pay-master general has been furnished with a sum of money for the purpose of paying the bounty of 20 dollars ordered by Congress to such soldiers as shall enlist to serve the United States during the war.

Congress resumed the report of the marine committee : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the rank of officers of marines be the same as officers of similar commissions in the land service :

That the commanders, officers, seamen, and marines in the continental navy be entitled to one half of merchantmen, transports, and store-ships by prize taken, from and after the first day of November, 1776, to be divided amongst them in the shares and proportions fixed by former resolutions of Congress :

That the commanders, officers, seamen and marines, in the continental navy be entitled to the whole value of all ships and vessels of war belonging to the crown of Great-Britain, by them made prize of, and all privateers authorized by his Britannic majesty to war against these states, to be divided as aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the part of the report relative to the rank and pay of naval officers, be referred to a committee of three.

The members chosen, Mr. Morris, Mr. Whipple, and Mr. R. H. Lee.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the report be re-committed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, October 31, 1776.

A letter, of the 28th, from general Green, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee of intelligence.

*Resolved*, That 2000 dollars be advanced to colonel Zebulon Butler, for the use of the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland, to be accountable:

That leave be granted to colonel Z. Butler, or his agent, to purchase salt belonging to the continent, fifty bushels, for the use of the troops raised in Westmoreland.

A letter, of the 29th, from R. Harrison, the general's secretary, was:

The committee appointed to make strict enquiry respecting the despatches from head-quarters, said to have been lost on Monday last, reported,

That they have pursued every probable method, that might lead to the recovery of the said despatches, without effect; that they have strictly examined every person, who could be supposed to have any knowledge of the circumstances related by the express, charged with the said despatches, respecting his loss, but can discover no traces of the robbery or theft. The said express does not give so clear and satisfactory an account of the matter as fully to exculpate himself in the opinion of this committee, and have therefore brought him back for the farther examination of the committee. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Timothy Dod, who had charge of the despatches to the general Washington, and alleges he lost them at Bristol, be committed to the custody of R. Jewell, keeper of the public prison, to be safely kept till further orders of Congress:

That Mr. Jewell be directed to keep Timothy Dod in his own house, and family, and not to permit any of the prisoners, nor any person, except those of his own family, to converse with him, till farther orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare an effectual plan for suppressing the internal enemies of America, and preventing a communication of intelligence to our other enemies.

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Wythe, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Ross.

*Ordered*, That the board of war remove the prisoners from Bristol, and public post roads, to some convenient places back in the country:

That they have a sufficient guard kept at the public prison, and the continental stores in and near Philadelphia.

Whereas, it has been represented to Congress, that sundry inhabitants of these United States, to keep supplies from the army, or promote their interest, have purchased considerable quantities of clothing, and refractions of the same, unless upon extravagant or unreasonable terms;

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, or committees of safety of the several states, forthwith to take suitable measures for obtaining, for the use of the army, such necessary articles, as are thus engrossed in their respective states, cannot be otherwise immediately procured, allowing to the owners reasonable prices for the same; and that there be provided in each of the states, for effectually preventing monopolies of necessaries for the army, or inhabitants of the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee to whom Mr. Bache's letter was referred report, as soon as possible, ways and means of establishing expresses, and conveying intelligence to and from the army, with safety and despatch.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, November 1, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 3000 dollars be paid to Acklam Ronfield, or order, as charged to the account of J. Trumbull, esq. deputy pay-master general in the northern department, the same being in full of a draught in his favour by said J. Trumbull, dated at Albany, 15th October, 1776.

board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ;  
 pon,  
*ved*, That commissions be granted to fill up the vacancies in the fourth,  
 and sixth Virginia battalions, agreeable to the list given in to the board of  
 general Stephens.  
*ved*, That 3000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Georgia, for  
 of that state ; the said delegates to be accountable.  
 petition from sundry ship-joiners, was read :  
*red*, That it be referred to the marine committee.  
*red*, That the board of war direct four companies of the Virginia bat-  
 on the eastern shore, to march, under the command of a field officer, to  
 in Delaware government, and there remain till farther orders.  
 gress took into consideration the report of the committee on the ways and  
 of supplying the treasury ; Whereupon,  
*olved*, That a sum of money be raised by way of lottery, for defraying  
 penses of the next campaign, the lottery to be drawn in Philadelphia :  
*ered*, That the committee who brought in the report, prepare the plan of  
 ry, fix the number of managers, and the security by them to be given,  
 report to Congress.  
*olved*, That the farther consideration of the report be postponed till to-  
 w.  
*lered*, That the board of treasury lay before Congress, once every week,  
 count of what part of the last emission of money remains unexpended.  
*lered*, That the board of war supply the delegates of Georgia, for the  
 that state, with a quantity of military stores, first informing Congress of  
 quantity applied for.  
 e several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, November 2, 1776.

ongress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the  
 and means of supplying the treasury ; Whereupon,  
*esolved*, That the board of treasury be directed to prepare all the materi-  
 and to have ready for a new emission five millions of dollars, to be issued  
 in Congress shall direct :  
 hat 500,000 dollars be speedily issued in small bills of two-thirds, one-  
 d, one-sixth, and one-ninth of a dollar.  
 petition from John Bates was read :  
*rded*, That it be referred to the committee who contracted with him.  
*esolved*, That 3,000 dollars be advanced to colonel Moses Hazen, for re-  
 ting his regiment ; he to be accountable.  
 The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,  
 to Isaac Dennis, and to be paid to Francis Lewis, esq. for dieting 80 men,  
 oats, &c. for horses of captain Thomas Price's company, in New-York go-  
 nment, 13 67-90 dollars :  
 To Bartholomew Van Keer, for his pay as brigadier-major, from 20th June  
 20th October, four months, at 33 dollars, 132 dollars.  
*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.  
 The committee to whom governor Livingston's letter was referred, brought  
 a report, which was read :  
*Ordered*, To lie on the table.  
*Resolved*, That Congress will, on Monday next, consider the application for  
 employing Mr. Roche de Fermoy in the continental service.  
 The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, November 4, 1776.

The honorable Matthew Thornton, esq. a delegate from New-Hampshire, attended, and produced his credentials, which were read as follow:

STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,  
*In the House of Representatives, Sept. 2, 1776.*

*Voted,* That the hon. Matthew Thornton, esq. be, and hereby is, a delegate to represent this state at the Continental Congress, for the ensuing. Sent up for concurrence.

P. WHITE, Sec.

IN COUNCIL, *Eodem Die.*

Read and concurred :

E. THOMPSON, Sec.

A copy, examined by

E. THOMPSON, Sec.

Two letters, of the 25th October and 1st November, from R. H. Lee, one from R. Stockton and G. Clymer, of the 26th October; one, from general Schuyler, at Saratoga, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Ordered,* That they be referred to the board of war.

A letter, of the 19th October, from G. Mason, chairman of the council of Fairfax county, in Virginia, enclosing a resolution of the council of that county, was read and referred to the board of war.

Whereas it is manifest, that unless effectual measures are immediately taken for re-inlisting the army, the safety of the states may be greatly endangered.

*Resolved,* That the president write to the commander in chief asking him that if, upon receipt of this resolution, commissioners from the respective states, for the purpose of appointing officers, shall not have arrived, he, after consulting and advising with such of his generals as he can conveniently call together, immediately to grant warrants to such of the officers from the respective states, which have not commissioners present authorized as aforesaid as he shall think deserving of commissions :

That the officers so to be appointed proceed with the utmost expedition to recruit their regiments to their full complement :

That commissions be sent to general Washington as soon as possible to be given to such officers as he shall appoint by warrants, in consequence of the foregoing resolution :

That the commander in chief be desired to take such steps as he shall think most proper for continuing the militia now in camp.

That, for this purpose, he write to such of the states as now have no representation in the government of New-York, requesting their assistance in this business, and that he be farther desired to apply to the neighboring states for such aid as he may require ;

That a letter to the same import be written to gen. Schuyler.

The committee, to whom the letter from T. Cushing was referred, brought a report, which was read.

It being represented that some of the marines in the barracks are sick.

*Resolved,* That Dr. Rush be desired to take them under his care, and that they be properly provided for.

*Resolved,* That Mr. Hooper be added to the committee to whom Mr. B. letter was referred, and that the said committee be directed to meet on Tuesday next, for business this evening at this place.

*Resolved,* That the wagon-master general be directed to take charge of the horses belonging to the continent, and prepare them for service, as soon as possible.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, November 5, 1776.**

Benjamin Harrison, esq. a delegate from Virginia, attended and produced credentials of his appointment, which were read as follows :

**VIRGINIA. In the House of Delegates, Thursday, Oct. 10, 1776.**

The house, according to the order of the day, proceeded by ballot to the appointment of a delegate to represent this state in general Congress, in the room of Thomas Jefferson, esq. and the members having prepared tickets for the purpose appointed, and put the same into a box, a committee was appointed to open the same, who reported, that they had met a committee from the northern army in the conference room, and had, jointly with them, examined the ballots, and that the numbers appeared as follows : For Benjamin Harrison, 5. — Merewether Smith, esq. 5.

*Resolved, therefore,* That the said Benjamin Harrison be appointed a delegate to represent this state in general Congress.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That the thanks of this house are justly due to the said Benjamin Harrison, for the diligence, ability and integrity, with which he discharged the important trust reposed in him as one of the delegates from this state to the general Congress.

*Copy :* JOHN TAZEWELL, *Clerk of the House of Delegates.*

*Resolved,* That Mr. Harrison be added to the board of war, and that he be present in all those standing committees, of which he was a member, when convened in Congress.

A letter, of the 31st October, from R. H. Harrison, was read.

The board of treasury brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

*Resolved,* That all accounts for services done, or articles supplied the northern army, be presented to the commissioners for settling accounts, and so far thereof as is approved by them, and confirmed by the general, be paid by warrants on the pay-master, after the commissioners have certified thereon that the accounts and vouchers are returned to them by the persons receiving the warrants :

That all warrants of the general on the pay-master for services to be performed, or articles to be supplied, be sent by the pay-master to the office, and entered in the books of the commissioners ; after which, the said commissioners as soon as they shall judge expedient, call to account the persons receiving advances ; and having settled the said accounts, they shall be filed in the office :

That when any balance appears to be due to the United States, from persons whose accounts are adjusted as aforesaid, they shall be received by the commissioners, and delivered to the pay-master, whose receipts therefor shall be transmitted to the treasury :

That the commissioners be empowered to administer oaths or affirmations to persons examined by them in the execution of their office.

That the generals' and pay-masters' accounts be sent to the treasury office of the commissioners, together with the pay-rolls and accounts discharged by them, upon their adjusting the accounts of the northern army to the end of the present campaign.

*Resolved,* That the commissioners appointed to settle the accounts of the northern army near New-York, be directed to govern their conduct agreeable to the foregoing resolutions.

*Resolved,* That the following instructions be given to the commissioners of the northern army :

That, in adjusting the accounts of persons, whose particular circumstances have rendered them unable to procure vouchers, or that, on the receipt of the army, have lost the same, the commissioners endeavour to obtain

the best information from the general officers, or other persons in that department, and use a discretionary power in administering oaths or affirmations for this purpose.

2. That there not having been a muster-master in the northern army during the last and present campaign, the commissioners particularly attend to the pay-rolls that shall be produced as vouchers by the pay-master, and should any faults appear, report them to the general, that the same may be thoroughly investigated.

3. That in other instances, the commissioners do not interfere with the muster or pay-rolls, unless, in particular cases, it shall be judged expedient by the general and themselves.

4. That the commissioners do not concern themselves in disputes about back-rations or allowances for vegetables said to be due to some officers and soldiers, but leave them with the commissary, whose business it is to regulate such disputes.

5. That where any person has done the duty of a deputy or assistant commissary, by desire of a general officer, or the commissary or deputy commissary generals, he be allowed for his services, although he has not received a commission for that purpose.

6. That demands for defending the frontiers of any of the states, if on account of troops not raised by order of Congress, be not considered by the commissioners.

7. That the commissioners certify to the general the accounts to be paid in specie, that if the military chest is supplied, the general may issue his warrants accordingly.

8. That the commissioners send to the state of New-Jersey, and to the states to the eastward thereof, if such accounts are not forwarded agreeable to a circular letter from the treasury board to the said states.

*Resolved*, That the president write to governor Livingston, and request him to send two companies of militia to guard the salt-works near Tom's river, and one company to be stationed at or near Shrewsbury, to intercept and put a stop to the intelligence said to be carried on between the tories and lord Howe's fleet; that the companies consist of fifty men each.

A petition from Joseph Traverses was presented to Congress, and read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 100 dollars be advanced to the said Joseph Traverses; to be accounted for by him on the settlement of his account.

The committee to whom the letter from Richard Bache, comptroller of the post-office, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That for obtaining early and frequent intelligence from the camps at White-Plains and Ticonderoga, or such other places as the armies now, or lately there, may march, or have marched to, and forwarding despatches to the commanding officers with the like expedition, the post-master general do immediately employ so many more riders, between Philadelphia and head-quarters of these armies, as he shall judge will most effectually perform that very important, and, at this time more especially, necessary service; and that he endeavour, to the utmost of his power, to procure sober, diligent, and trusty persons to undertake it; and guard, in the best manner he is able, against robberies of the mails, or losses of their contents otherwise:

That all ferry-keepers be enjoined, as much as they are able, to expedite the passage of post-riders and other persons charged with letters, despatches, or messages, from or to Congress; and that it be recommended to the several legislatures of the United States, to enforce the observance of this resolution:

That expresses and special messengers, employed in the public service, taking and carrying private letters and packets, ought not to receive the wages they would otherwise be entitled to:

the deputy post-master at head-quarters be allowed four rations, every of the public stores there, for the subsistence of himself, his riders, and servant.

Whereupon the Congress took into consideration the case of the chevalier Roche de Fermoy :

*Resolved*, That the chevalier Matthias Alexis Roche de Fermoy, be appointed brigadier-general in the army of the United States.

The committee to whom was referred the petition and accounts of Benjamin Wright brought in a report, which was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of treasury.

The petition from Jeremiah Cady was read :

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the commissioners appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the northern army, and that they report specially thereon.

The main resolutions of the convention of the state of New-York were laid before Congress, and read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a committee of three :

Three members chosen, Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Whipple, and Mr. Hart.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, November 6, 1776.

Letters, of the 3d, from R. H. Harrison, enclosing one of the 2d from brigadier-general Parsons ; one, of the 30th October, from general Schuyler at Albany, enclosing instructions for officers appointed to recruit for the service of the United States ; one, of the 31st October, from J. Trumbull, deputy-master general ; and one, of the same date, from governor Trumbull, containing a resolve of the general assembly of Connecticut, appointing John P. Hance, esq. of Hartford, commissioner to superintend the loan-office, in New-York, were read :

*Resolved*, That the letter from general Schuyler, and that from Mr. Harrison, and the letter enclosed, be referred to the board of war :

That the letter from governor Trumbull, and that from J. Trumbull, paying, also the letter of the 29th of August from general Schuyler, together with the memorial from colonel Brown, and the officers' certificates enclosed therewith, be referred to the board of treasury.

The committee of treasury brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the report of a court of enquiry appointed by general Schuyler and held at Albany the 5th of October, in consequence of a resolution of Congress of the 30th of July last, confirming general Montgomery's promise to the troops concerned in taking the vessels on the Sorel, all the public stores, except ammunition and provisions, on board thereof, be referred to the commissioners for adjusting the accounts of the northern army ; that they be directed to make strict enquiry into the matter, and inform themselves, by the evidence of persons who served at that time as quarter-master and commissaries of stores in the said army, and of others, what part, or whether any, of the stores mentioned in the report, were taken for the public service ; that they be directed to the officers and men which they find entitled thereto, the amount of any of the stores as shall appear to have been taken for the army as afore-said and have not been paid for, after deducting therefrom, such reasonable expenses as have accrued to any of the captors in obtaining an adjustment of prize-money, and ordering the amount of such articles of the prize-goods as the said captors have received, and were not given them as bounties, to be deducted from their respective proportions ; that the pay-master be directed, upon receiving general Schuyler's warrant for payment of the same

to proportion it amongst such officers and men, as the general and commissioners shall direct, agreeable to the pay allowed by the establishment at that time, without any regard to rations.

The marine committee brought in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That three persons, well skilled in maritime affairs, be immediately appointed to execute the business of the navy, under the direction of the marine committee.

The remainder of the report, at the request of a colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That commissions be delivered to the captains and subalterns of the 6th Virginia battalion, and that the dates be filled up by gen. Stephens.

*Resolved*, That 4000 dollars be advanced to colonel Lawson, of the 4th Virginia battalion, for the payment of the said battalion, he to be accountable, and that the money be paid into the hands of Thomas Gaskins.

Two bills were presented to Congress ; one drawn by general Lee for 64 dollars, dated Petersburg, 28th September, 1776 ; the other of the same, by Jacob Morris, aid-de-camp to general Lee, for 150 dollars, both in favor of John Bannister, and drawn upon William Palfrey, esq. pay-master at Philadelphia :

*Ordered*, That they be paid, and charged to the account of general Lee.

*Resolved*, That Willie Jones, esq. of Halifax, Robert Smith, esq. of Edenton, and Alexander Telfer, esq. of Halifax, or any two of them, be appointed to audit and settle the continental accounts in Virginia.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Benjamin Wallace, and to be paid to Charles Risk, for victualling 45 men of the flying camp, 4 45 dollars :

To Francis Hopkinson, esq. for his and J. Wilson, esq. expenses, &c. at Bristol, to make enquiry respecting despatches sent from head-quarters, and lost, by the express, 25 60 dollars :

To Sebastian Miller, for the hire of a wagon with money from Philadelphia to Boston, 65 30 dollars :

To John Gibson, esq. auditor-general, for half a years' salary due the 9th of October last, 533 30 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The ship Lady Catharine, George Ord, master, which was sent out last winter, being returned,

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be empowered and directed to settle the accounts of the voyage, and report in what manner the cargo imported is to be disposed of.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, November 7, 1776.

A petition from John Connolly, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee appointed to examine into the state of prisoners in the public gaol of Philadelphia.

Whereas, the late major-general Ward, since his resignation of his trust, has continued in command, in the eastern department, at the request of the commander in chief, and still continues therein at the request of Congress ; it is, therefore,

*Ordered*, That he receive the pay of a major-general, commanding in a separate department, from the 26th day of April last, being the time of his resignation, and until a suitable person shall be appointed to take the command in his stead, or it shall be otherwise ordered by Congress.

*Resolved*, That Richard Bache be appointed post-master general in the room of Dr. Franklin, who is absent.

deal having been lodged with the secretary against the sentence passed in court of admiralty, for the port of Philadelphia, in the state of Pennsylvania on the libel "John Barry, &c. vs. the sloop Betsey, &c."

Resolved, That the hearing and determining upon the said appeal be referred to a committee of five:

Members chosen, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Edge.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; and

Resolved, 1. That 266 60 dollars be advanced to capt. Francis Holland, and 100 dollars to capt. Robert Harris, both of the Maryland flying-camp, they being respectively accountable to the council of safety of that state for the moneys, which are to be for the use of, and charged to the account of, their respective companies:

That 1110 67 dollars be advanced to captain Alexander Lawson Smith, of the colonel Stevenson's rifle regiment, to pay the subsistence money of, and enable him to advance a month's pay to, the said company:

That commissions be sent to general Schuyler, for colonel Elmore's regiment, to be filled up according to the ranks and times of service of the officers of said regiment; the general making such arrangements therein as he shall think proper:

That commissions be also sent to general Schuyler, to be filled up with names of the officers yet unprovided for, who have served in Canada, according to their ranks and merits, to complete colonel Livingston's regiment: That general Schuyler, agreeable to his request, have permission to repair to the coast, as soon as he shall be of opinion the service will admit of his absence from his department:

That general Schuyler be informed that Congress have repeatedly applied to Maryland on the subject of the Nanticoke Indians, without having received an answer; that application shall again be made, and information be given of the result:

That general Schuyler be allowed to give such clothing to the Indians as he may think can be spared for that purpose:

That the deputy muster-master general, in the northern department, have the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army of the United States:

That general Washington be requested to take proper steps for trying all deserters from his army, and punishing, in the most exemplary manner the offenders; of war will admit, all such officers and soldiers who shall be base enough to disgracefully to leave the service of their country at this time of trial and danger.

Resolved, That each of the persons to be appointed to execute the business of the navy, under the direction of the marine committee, be allowed the salary of 1500 dollars per annum.

A letter from colonel Miles to William Wister, was laid before Congress and read; wherein he intimates that an exchange may be accomplished of him for Foxcroft, and perhaps of colonel Atlee, or lieutenant-colonel Piper, for Dashwood:

Resolved, That the letter be transmitted to general Washington, and that he be desired to do therein what he shall think proper.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, the house adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### FRIDAY, November 8, 1776.

A letter, of the 4th, from R. Dallam, esq. was read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That 5000 dollars be paid to Gustavus Risberg, A. Q. M. general, and charged to the account of Richard Dallam, agreeably to the request of the said Dallam; and that the letter be referred to the board of treasury.

**Resolved**, That doctor Witherspoon have leave to take with him, ton, Archibald Gardiner, James Henderson, Peter Jack, and Hugh L. of the prisoners lately sent to Philadelphia, and there to keep the further orders of Congress.

The committee appointed to devise means for preventing the apprehended from the internal enemies of the United States, and them from carrying on correspondence with the foreign enemies of the states, brought in a report, which was read :

**Ordered**, That the consideration thereof be postponed to Monday.

A petition from Paul Christman, ensign in captain Keyser's company Maryland, in the German battalion, was read, praying leave to resign mission :

**Resolved**, That leave be granted.

The committee of treasury reported,

That there ought to be advanced to colonel Valentine Crawford, the executors of the late colonel Hugh Stevenson, on account of his services, dollars :

That there is due to the following Canadian prisoners, and to the captain Chartier de Lotbinier, 253.30 dollars : viz.

To captain Lotbinier, for his allowance, from the 2d of November to the 31st of October, 1776, 52 weeks, at 2 dollars, 104 dollars : of which he received from general Schuyler, 14.60 dollars ; remains to be paid to him 89.40 dollars :

To M. Tonancour, for his allowance, from the 2d Nov. 1775, to the 31st of October, 1776, 52 weeks, at 2 dollars, 104 dollars :

To M. Dochambault, for his allowance, from the 31st of August to the 31st of November, 10 weeks, at 2 dollars, 20 dollars :

To M. Fleurimont, for his allowance, from the 31st of August to the 31st of November, 10 weeks, at 2 dollars, 20 dollars :

To M. St. Ours, for his allowance, from the 31st of August to the 31st of November, 10 weeks, at 2 dollars, 20 dollars :

**Ordered**, That the said accounts be paid.

**Resolved**, That a committee of three be appointed to consider and report what restrictions the sutlers, who supply the army, should be under, and that the motions made by Mr. Gerry, and seconded, be referred to the committee :

The members chosen, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Wolcott.

A petition from J. Budden and T. Lawrence was read, requesting leave to export provisions to 'Turks' Island, in order to bring from thence a cargo of sugar.

**Resolved**, That leave be granted.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

**Resolved**, That Mynheer N. D. Ottendorf be appointed a brevet captain in the service of the United States.

**Resolved**, That Tuesday next be assigned for taking into consideration the trade of these states.

**Resolved**, That the sum of 2666.60 dollars be advanced to the committee appointed to contract for casting cannon ; they to be accountable.

A letter from Tench Coxe, at Trenton, to John Tabor Kempe, esq. of New York, was laid before Congress, and leave requested to forward the same in order to obtain the release of Mrs. Lewis, who is detained a prisoner of war by the enemy on Long-Island :

**Resolved**, That this matter be referred to the board of war :

That the delegates of New-Jersey be directed to cause strict enquiry to be made through what channel Mr. Kempe conveyed the intelligence mentioned in the foregoing letter.

**d,** That 120 dollars be advanced to captain George Gibson, of the 1st Pennsylvania battalion, he to account with the pay-master-general on the settlement of his accounts.  
**r** from James Sullivan was read, and referred to the board of war.  
**several** matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
**terminated** to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**SATURDAY, November 9, 1776.**

**Resolved,** That two months' pay, being 250 dollars, be advanced to brigadier-General Roche de Fermoy, he to be accountable :  
**Resolved,** That he repair to the northern army, and put himself under the command of general Schuyler.  
**Resolved,** That the report of Timothy Danielson, chairman of a committee of the assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, appointed to officer and enlist seven hundred men out of the officers and soldiers in the continental army near White-Plains, with sundry papers enclosed, was read :  
**Resolved,** That the same be referred to a committee of three :  
**Members** chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Wythe.  
**Resolved,** That two months' pay be advanced to captain Ottendorf; and that he repair to head-quarters, and put himself under the command of general Washington.  
**Resolved,** That the committee of treasury reported, that there is due, to Robert Towers, commissary, for sundry articles purchased by him by direction of the board of war, and to be charged to the account of the said board, 3280 dollars :  
**Resolved,** That 3280 dollars be advanced to captain Casdorp, to pay the arrearages due to the company of carpenters sent to Ticonderoga : for which he is to account :  
**Resolved,** That 50,000 dollars be sent to Richard Dallam, esq. deputy pay-master for the flying-camp; he to be accountable :  
**Resolved,** That the said sums be paid.  
**Resolved,** That the committee appointed to consider and report under what restrictions the supplies, who supply the army, ought to be laid, brought in a report, which was read, and, after some debate thereon,  
**Resolved,** That the farther consideration thereof be postponed to Monday.  
**Resolved,** That Congress having received intelligence that a free and open communication of correspondence is kept up with the enemy on Staten-Island and New-Jersey from Elizabethtown, Newark, and the parts adjacent, to the great detriment of the American cause : It is therefore recommended to the governor, the council, and assembly of the state of New-Jersey, to take the most speedy and effectual measures to stop all communication between that state and the enemy's quarters, that shall not be directed by proper authority.  
**Resolved,** That a memorial from Lawrence Bowden, late master of the ship Royal-Exchange, taken by the ship of war Columbus, was presented to Congress and read.  
**Resolved,** That it be referred to the marine committee.  
**Resolved,** That Congress will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the means of supporting the credit of the continental currency.  
**Resolved,** That several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
**terminated** to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, November 11, 1776.**

**Resolved,** That the letters, of the 6th, from general Washington ; one, of the 8th, from brigadier-General Mercer ; and one from Richard Bache, esq. were read.  
**Resolved,** That the two former be referred to the board of war, and the latter to the board of treasury.

*Resolved*, That col. James Livingston have leave to recruit his regiment in any of the United States.

A petition from Charles Noel Romand, sieur de Lisle, captain in artillery in the service of France, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be empowered and directed immediately to confer with the council of safety of Pennsylvania; or a committee appointed, on the best ways and means of defending the city of Philadelphia in case it should be attacked.

*Resolved*, That the committee of treasury, or either of them, be authorized to administer oaths to persons whom they shall examine or employ in the resolutions of Congress.

The committee to whom the letter from Timothy Danielson, and the enclosed therein, were referred, brought in a report, which was read in debate,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### TUESDAY, November 12, 1776.

A letter, of the 10th, from gen. Mifflin ; one, of the same date, from William ; and one, of the 9th, from Dr. Shippen, were read.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To George Stultz, for iron-work, and repairing a continental light, 12.60 dollars :

To John Tyler, for bayonet-scabbards, and repairing arms for the 1st battalion, 82.30 dollars :

To Mons. Lotbinier, a Canadian chaplain, for his pay and rations, from the 1st of October to 10th of November, 41.30 dollars :

To doctor Beaumont, a prisoner, of the 26th regiment, for his allowance, from 21st July to 3d November, inclusive, being 15 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 30 dollars :

To William McLeod, a prisoner, of the 59th regiment, for his allowance, from 21st July to 3d November, inclusive, being 15 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 30 dollars :

That there is to be paid to Daniel du Chemin, for the allowance of Messrs. Hertel, Giasson, and la Magdalaine, Canadian prisoners, from the 1st of August to 6th November, inclusive, 14 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 28 dollars each, 84 dollars :

That there should be paid to Joel Zane, for the allowance due to him, as a soldier, of the 7th regiment, from 20th July to 1st November, inclusive, at 2 dollars a week, 30 dollars ; and to captain Swan, of the 26th regiment, from 21st June to 1st November, being 19 weeks, at 2 dollars, 38 dollars, whole 68 dollars :

To James Budden, for himself, and others of the light-horse, their expenses as an escort with money to New-York, 82 dollars, and for his expenses in going to general Prescott from Reading to Philadelphia, 24.42 dollars ; both summing 106.42 dollars :

To William Woodhouse, for wafers for the use of Congress, 1.12 dollars :

To Thomas Smith, for paper for the use of the commissioners for the New-York department, 15.78 dollars :

That there should be paid to Dr. Rush 625 dollars for 5 months' advance to brigadier-general Thompson, who is to be accountable :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The committee of treasury, to whom that part of the petition and memorial of John Brown, lieutenant-colonel of the regiment commanded by col. Elmer,

that his extraordinary services in Canada, last year, may be considered, and brought in a report, which was read :

*d,* To lie on the table.

*r* to Willing & Morris, from Samuel Smith, master of the Hancock & who, on his passage to Philadelphia, was taken by the Gamecock privateer (Rhode-Island, commanded by Timothy Pierce, and carried into Bedford Massachusetts-Bay) dated Bedford port, November 1, was laid before and read :

*d,* That it be referred to the secret committee, and that they report on board the Hancock & Adams, and how it ought to be disposed of. *d* of war, to whom a request from the state of Virginia was referred, and a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*d,* That the demands of the continent for cannon are at present of so great a nature that none can be spared for the particular use of any state ; and as a sufficient quantity of ordnance is supplied to the United States, that of the state of Virginia, to be permitted to purchase cannon at the works, shall be complied with.

Monsieur Romand de Lisle be appointed a major of artillery in the United States, and sent to general Washington, to be employed as I think proper.

A letter from James M'Connaughy was read.

*d,* That it be referred to the board of war.

A memorial from Azariah Dunham was read :

*d,* That it be referred to the council of safety of Pennsylvania.

*r*, of the 9th, from general Washington, enclosing one of the 31st of November from general Gates, at Ticonderoga, was read.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the letter of Timothy Danielson ; Whereupon,

*d,* As the opinion of Congress, that if the soldiers to be raised by the Massachusetts-Bay, be enlisted on the terms offered to them, which are more advantageous than what are offered to other soldiers serving in the army, it would much retard, if not totally impede, the enlistment of the militia, and produce discontent and murmur, unless Congress should equally increase the pay of these, which, it is the opinion of Congress, would universally be regarded as an immoderate expense, and complained of as a grievous burthen on those who must bear it ; and, therefore, that the committee from the Massachusetts-Bay be desired not to enlist their men on the additional terms proposed by the assembly of that state.

On the re-consideration, the resolution of the 16th of September last, for raising volunteers to serve during the present war with Great-Britain, Congress being of opinion, that the readiness of the inhabitants of these states to enter the service for limited times, in defence of their invaluable privileges, on former occasions, gives good ground to hope the same zeal for the public will appear in future, when necessity calls for their assistance, and, notwithstanding the uncertain length of time which forces, raised during the continuance of the present war, may be compelled to serve, may prevent men from enlisting, who would otherwise manifest their attachment to the common cause, by enlisting for a limited time ; therefore,

*d,* That all non-commissioned officers and soldiers who do not engage their service during the continuance of the present war, and who are to serve three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress, shall be entitled to the same bounty and pay as are allowed to those who engage for the continuance of the present war, except the 100 acres of land ; and that is to be granted to those only who enlist without such limitation of time, and each recruiting officer is required to provide two distinct enlistings.

rolls, one for such to sign as enlist during the continuance of the war  
 other for such as enlist for three years, if their service shall be so long  
 The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, November 13, 1776.

A letter, of the 12th of October, from Joseph Trumbull, commander,  
 was read; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 40,000 dollars be advanced to Thomas Lowry, and  
 to the account of Joseph Trumbull, agreeable to his request.

The marine committee having recommended colonel John Nixon  
 Wharton, as fit persons to execute the business of the navy, under the  
 of the marine committee,

*Resolved*, That they be accepted.

A letter, of the 10th, from M. Tilghman, president of the convention  
 Maryland, enclosing sundry resolutions of that body, relative to the  
 quota of the new levies, was laid before Congress and read:

*Ordered*, That the president furnish the commissioners of the  
 sent therefrom to raise their levies, with the resolution of yesterday  
 the new levies to enlist for three years only, and, at the same time  
 them, that, if the inhabitants of that state will enlist to serve during  
 tinuance of the present war, they already have the faith of the United  
 America pledged for the land to be granted to such soldiers.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Mons. la Marque, a Canadian prisoner, for his allowance from  
 August to the 8th of November, inclusive, being 10 weeks, at 2 dollars  
 20 dollars, to be paid to Mons. de la Magdalaine:

To capt. Thomas Gamble, a prisoner of the 47th regiment, for his  
 from the 10th of August, to the 2d of November, inclusive, 12 weeks  
 dollars a week, 24 dollars, to be paid to James Biddle, esq.

To Michael Leightner, and to be paid to George Aston, for victuals  
 on their march, 15.5 dollars:

To John Nourse, for ferriage of himself, and of general Lee and his  
 horses, &c. over Hoe's ferry, 4.60 dollars, to be paid to col. B. Howe

To doctor Samuel Wilson, for board, attendance, and medicine for  
 diers of the 6th Virginia regiment, 33.60 dollars:

To Wollore Meng, for 12 scabbards delivered to captain Ralston  
 the 5th Virginia battalion, 4.72 dollars:

That there should be paid to Thomas Armer, on account of Elizabeth  
 son, for so much short paid on settlement of her account, the 1st of  
 last, for board, &c. of sick soldiers belonging to captain Grier's  
 dollars:

That there should be paid to the Pennsylvania hospital, for the  
 clothing of J. Hughes, a wounded soldier, 36.54 dollars:

That there should be paid to Adam Eccle, 8.78 dollars, being so  
 by him to serjeant John Byers, of captain Hubley's company, in color  
 battalion, to enable him to support his party, being a guard to powder  
 Philadelphia to North-Carolina:

That there is due to Willam O'Harra, a soldier in the late captain  
 Hendrick's company, taken at Quebec, and now returned, for his pay  
 January to 10th November, 10 months and 10 days, at 6.60 dollars  
 68.80 dollars:

To Henry Taylor, a soldier in captain Smith's rifle-company, taken at  
 bec, and now returned, for his pay from 1st June to 10th November,  
 and 10 days, at 6.60 dollars, 35.50 dollars:

To Dr. William Sarringhausen, for medicine and attendance to the  
 of captain Woelpper's company, in the German battalion, 24.1 dollars

Benjamin Eyre, ship-wright, for his pay and rations, employed in con-  
g row-gallies at New-York, horse-hire, and travelling expenses to Al-  
engage boards, &c. for the army, 427.77 dollars :

60,000 dollars be sent to R. Dallam, esq. deputy pay-master general  
ying camp, for the use of the army :

there is due to Daniel Naef, for the ferriage of Virginia troops, their  
e, wagons and horses, over Susquehanna, 61.72 dollars :

Andrew M'Nair, for his attendance on Congress 146 days, cleaning  
&c. to 1st November, 118.81 dollars :

red, That the said accounts be paid.

board of treasury brought in a report respecting the certificates to be  
o the lenders of the five millions of dollars, voted to be borrowed, which  
ad.

board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration :  
upon,

olved, That 2000 dollars be advanced to colonel Hausegger for the use  
German battalion ; he to be accountable.

olved, That the remainder of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

secret committee, to whom the letter from captain Smith was referred,  
t in a report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

olved, That the secret committee be directed to write letters to governor  
to the continental agent in Rhode-Island, and such other persons as  
hall think proper, to make strict enquiry into the conduct of captain  
ny Pierce, respecting the capture or seizure of the ship Hancock &  
s, employed in the continental service, and cause him to be prosecuted  
penalty of the bond given, when he received his commission, if it shall  
on the enquiry, that in justice to the continent, such prosecution  
be commenced ; and the said committee are authorized to do what may  
essary for supporting the prosecution.

remainder of the report postponed.

several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
ourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, *November 14*, 1776.

etter, of the 4th, from R. H. Harrison, and one, of the 17th October,  
ames Bowdoin, esq. were read :

ered, That they be referred to the board of war.

olved, That a committee of two be appointed to confer with the council  
ety of Pennsylvania, and enquire what quantity of salt they have on  
or expect shortly, and what proportion can be spared for the public  
e :

members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Whipple.

ormation being given to Congress, that part of the enemy's fleet was  
coming out of the Hook, and steering its course to the southward :

olved, That copies of the letter, giving the information, be sent by ex-  
to general Washington, and to governor Livingston, of New-Jersey, and  
o the southern states.

olved, That the board of war confer immediately with the council of  
of Pennsylvania, and co-operate with them in devising ways and means  
alling forth the strength of that and the neighboring states, for the de-  
of this city, against any attempts which the enemy may make to obtain  
ession of it ; and that, for this purpose, the board of war be invested with  
ll powers of Congress, to promote most effectually this important purpose :  
at the marine committee also be directed to make such disposition of the  
force, now in the river Delaware, or the neighborhood thereof, as will  
conduce to defeat the designs of the enemy.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, November 15, 1776.

A letter, of the 11th, from general Washington, at Peek's-kill; one, of the 5th, from general Gates, at Ticonderoga, informing of general Carlton's retreat from Crown-Point; one, of the 8th, from general Schuyler, at Albany; one of the 12th, from general Green; one, without date, from general Lewis; one from Robert Ogden, of the 11th; and one from R. Dallam to R. Peters, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That the letter from general Lewis be referred to the marine committee.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to supply E. Blain, esq. with 230 bushels of salt, for the public service: That the said council of safety be, and they are hereby requested, to supply Messrs. Lowry, Wharton, Ogden, and Dunham, assistants to the commissary-general, or any one of them, with one half of such quantities of salt, as are, or may be, in their hands, for the use of the continent.

Two memorials, one from Eleazer Oswald, and the other from Samuel Lockwood, were read:

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the board of war.

M. Romand de Lisle, who, on the 12th, was appointed a major of artillery, thinking that appointment inadequate to his merit and abilities, and requesting to be sent to general Washington, that he may have an opportunity of giving a specimen of his abilities:

*Resolved*, That he have leave to go to general Washington.

*Ordered*, That the marine committee apply to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, for 1500 24 lb. 1800 18 lb. cannon shot, and 500 bar-shot, which shall be re-placed by Congress; and that the said committee send the shot and six tons of powder to South-Carolina, for the defence of that state and North-Carolina:

That a copy of the intelligence contained in general Green's letter of the 12th, be sent by express, with all possible expedition, to the southern states.

The secret committee having reported, that the cargo belonging to the continent, imported in the Hancock & Adams, consisted of the following articles, viz. 72 chests of arms, 311 barrels of gunpowder, 338 pigs of lead, 9 casks of gun-flints, 1 case of pins, 138 barrels tin-plates, 5 cases of iron-wire, 70 casks of salt-petre, and 10 bales of merchandise:

*Resolved*, That the secret committee direct the entire cargo of the Hancock & Adams to be landed at Bedford, and deposited in places of safety, under the care of the committee of that place, until ordered from thence:

That the muskets, powder, lead, and gun-flints, be delivered by the committee of Bedford, to the order of the board of war, who are to inform the general of these stores, and direct the whole, or any part that may be wanted for the use of the army, to be delivered to him; with an injunction not to put the muskets into the hands of any but those soldiers who enlist under the late resolves and regulations of Congress:

That every part of the merchandise on board the said ship, that is now wanted for the use of the army, be applied to that use, and that the secret committee inform general Mifflin, the quarter-master general, thereof, and enclose him an order for the immediate delivery of all such parts as he shall desire:

That the remainder of the cargo be subject to the directions of the secret committee, who are empowered to order it from thence, either by sea or land, to any other part or parts of these states, where the articles may be wanted for the public service.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

trustees for the poor of Frederick county, Maryland, for board and  
e of sick soldiers of the Maryland troops in continental service, 58 30  
o be paid to Nicholas Hower :

. Nicholas Way, for medicine, attendance, lodging, nursing, &c. of  
iers of the 5th and 6th Virginia regiments, 467 56 dollars.

ed, That the said accounts be paid.

ess took into consideration the report of the committee relative to the  
Whereupon,

ed, That a bounty of 20 dollars be paid to the commanders, officers,  
of such continental ships or vessels of war, as shall make prize of  
ish ships or vessels of war, for every cannon mounted on board each  
t the time of such capture, and 8 dollars per head for every man then  
l and belonging to such prize :

the rank of the naval officers be to the rank of officers in the land ser-  
follows :

as a	General,	Captain of a ship of 20	
miral	Lieutenant-general,	to 40 guns	Lieutenant-colonel,
miral	Major-general,	Captain of a ship of 10	
ore	Brigadier-general,	to 20 guns	Major,
of a ship of 40		Lieutenant in the navy	Captain.
nd upwards	Colonel,		

the pay of all officers and men in the American navy, from the date  
new commissions, under the free and independent states of America, be  
ws :

of 20 guns	Per calendar	Of 10 to 20	Of ships of 20 guns	Per calendar	Of 10 to 20
upwards.	month.	guns.	and upwards.	month.	guns.
	60 dolls.	48 dolls.	Armourer,	9 dolls.	9 dolls.
iant,	30	24	Sail-maker,	10	10
	30	24	Sail-maker's mate,	8½	8½
s mate,	15	15	Yeoman,	8½	8½
ain,	15	13	Quarter-master,	9	8 1-2
ain's mate,	9½	9	Cook,	9	8 1-2
r,	15	13	Coxswain,	9	9
r's mate,	9 1-2	9	Captain's clerk,	15	12
on,	25	21 2-3	Steward,	10	10
on's mate,	15	13½	Chaplain,	20	none
nter,	15	13	Yeoman of powder		
nter's mate,	9½	9	room,	9 1-2	9
r,	9	9	Master at arms,	10	9
ipman,	12	12	Seamen,	8	8

at vessels, under ten guns, be commanded by lieutenants :

at the pay of the officers in such vessels be,

utenant commanding,	30 dollars;	Gunner,	-	12 dollars;
te,	15	Carpenter,	-	12
atswain,	12			

ne other officers and men the same as in vessels from 10 to 20 guns :

rine officers,—Captain, 30 dollars. Lieutenant, 20 dollars.

on-commissioned officers and soldiers the same as in the land service.

esolved, That the president write to general Washington, and inform him,  
as leave to negotiate an exchange of the foreign troops in the pay of Great-  
ain, that are prisoners to these states.

ongress took into consideration a report from the board of treasury, for  
ying into execution the resolutions of Congress relative to the loan-offices ;  
ereupon,

esolved, That the certificates be of the following denominations :

737 of 1000	737,000	2940 of 400	1,176,000
470 of 600	882,000	3675 of 300	1,102,500
205 of 500	1,102,500		
		11,027	5,000,000

That the value or denomination of the certificates, be, in different parts thereof in print and writing:

That each denomination have a check-letter, corresponding with a letter in the margin to be left in the book:

That the several denominations be further distinguished from each other, by having the border, at the end of the certificate, varied or altered from the rest:

That the engraved ornaments between the margin, or part left in the book and the certificate, be cut indentwise, first having occasional dashes made with a pen across it, of the colour with which the treasurer signs his name:

That the impressions of the rolling-press, with the signature of the treasurer, in certificates of the highest denomination, be made with yellow-ink, of the second with blue, of the third with red, of the fourth with green, and of the fifth or lowest denomination with purple.

A petition from Joseph Dean, Matthew Irwin, John Dunlap and Benjamin Harbeson, was read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

Dr. Charles Ludwig having been duly examined on the practice of surgery and medicine, and recommended as duly qualified,

*Resolved*, That he be appointed surgeon to the German battalion.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, November 16, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 300 dollars be advanced to the secretary of the board of war, for contingent expenses; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the convention of North-Carolina, to station brigadier-general Moore, with the regular troops under his command, in such parts of that state, or of the state of South-Carolina, where they will be in a capacity to render immediate and seasonable assistance to their friends in South-Carolina; and that they may be on the spot to oppose the enemy, when, and wheresoever, they shall attempt to make their landing good in that state; and that the convention of North-Carolina do, immediately, at the continental expense, embody 5000 militia, to complete any military operations already begun by general Moore, to defend the state of North-Carolina, or march to the relief of their neighbours in South-Carolina, or Virginia, where there shall be most occasion for their support.

The committee on the lottery, brought in a report, which was read:

*Ordered*, That it be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, November 18, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 40,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania; the said state to be accountable.

A letter, of the 14th, from general Washington, enclosing copies of letters which passed between him and general Howe; one of the 6th, from general Gates; one, of the 10th, from Richard Stockton and G. Clymer, esqrs. at Albany; one, of the 11th, from general Schuyler, at Albany; one, of the 16th, from general Stephens, at Amboy; one, of the 1st, from B. Harrison, pay-master in the southern department; and, one of the 8th, from brigadier-general Lewis, at Williamsburg, were read:

*Ordered*, That the letters from general Washington, general Schuyler, general Gates, and brigadier-general Stephens, be referred to the board of war; that the letters from brigadier-general Lewis and B. Harrison, be referred to the board of treasury.

letter and memorial from Joseph Trumbull, esq. and a memorial from E. Bird, were read :

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the board of war.

letter from Juliana Zedwitz was read, and referred to the committee on state of prisoners.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the said committee, and that they be directed to take into consideration the case of lieutenant M'Lean, who was sent to Philadelphia by general Wooster :

The member chosen, Mr. Hooper.

The marine committee having recommended Francis Hopkinson, esq. as a person to execute the business of the navy, under their direction,

*Resolved*, That he be accepted.

A memorial of Isaac Cox, in behalf of Alexander Frazer and others, inhabitants of the Island of Providence, owners of two sloops called the Dragon and the Molly, taken by private sloops of war, called the Congress and Chance, brought into the port of Philadelphia, but afterwards released, praying for orders of safe conduct for the said sloops to the port of Providence, in order to prevent any arrest or molestation by the vessels of war in the service of the United States :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

A petition from Muscoe Livingston, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a committee of three :

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wythe and Mr. Ross.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the lottery ; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the scheme of the lottery be as follows, viz.

That it consist of 100,000 tickets, each ticket to be divided into four billets, and to be drawn in four classes.

First class, at 10 dollars each billet,	-	-	-	-	1,000,000
Reduction, at 15 per cent.	-	-	-	-	150,000
					<hr/> 850,000

Sizes. 1 of 10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000	
2 of 5,000	-	-	-	-	10,000	
30 of 1,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	
400 of 500	-	-	-	-	200,000	
20,000 of 20	-	-	-	-	400,000	
Carried to the fourth class,	-	-	-	-	200,000	850,000
Second class, 100,000 billets at 20 dollars each,						2,000,000
Reduction, at 15 per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	300,000
						<hr/> 1,700,000

Sizes. 1 of 20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	
2 of 10,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	
10 of 5,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	
100 of 1,000	-	-	-	-	100,000	
820 of 500	-	-	-	-	410,000	
20,000 of 30	-	-	-	-	600,000	
Carried to the fourth class,	-	-	-	-	500,000	1,700,000
Third class, 100,000 billets at 30 dollars each,						3,000,000
Reduction, at 15 per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	450,000
						<hr/> 2,550,000

Sizes. 1 of 30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	
1 of 20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	

2 of 15,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	
2 of 10,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	
10 of 5,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	
200 of 1,000	-	-	-	-	200,000	
1000 of 500	-	-	-	-	500,000	
20,000 of 40	-	-	-	-	800,000	
Carried to the 4th class,	-	-	-	-	900,000	2,550,000
Fourth class, 100,000 billets at 40 dollars each,	-	-	-	-	-	4,000,000
Deduction, at 15 per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	600,000
						<hr/>
						3,400,000
Brought from the first class,	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
from the second class,	-	-	-	-	-	500,000
from the third class,	-	-	-	-	-	900,000
						<hr/>
Total,						5,000,000
Prizes. 1 of 50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	
2 of 25,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	
2 of 10,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	
10 of 5,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	
100 of 1,000	-	-	-	-	100,000	
200 of 500	-	-	-	-	100,000	
1000 of 300	-	-	-	-	300,000	
15,000 of 200	-	-	-	-	3,000,000	
20,000 of 50	-	-	-	-	1,300,000	
						<hr/>
						5,000,000

The lottery being intended to raise a sum of money on loan, bearing an annual interest of four per cent. which, with the sums arising from the deductions, is to be applied for carrying on the present most just and necessary war, in defence of the lives, liberties and property of the inhabitants of these United States:

*Resolved*, That the fortunate adventurers in the 1st class, who draw more than 20 dollars, and so in the 2d and 3d classes, who draw more than 30 or 40 dollars, shall, at their option, receive a treasury bank note for the prize or prizes drawn, payable at the end of five years, and an annual interest on the same, at the rate of four per cent. or the pre-emption of such billets in the next succeeding class, as shall not be renewed within the time hereinafter limited. Every adventurer in the 1st class shall have a right to go through the subsequent classes, but shall not be obliged to do it. The drawers of 20, 30 and 40 dollars in the 1st, 2d and 3d classes, who do not apply for their money within six weeks after the drawing ends, shall be deemed adventurers in the next succeeding class, and have their billets renewed without any further trouble. If any others shall neglect or decline taking out and paying the price of their billets, for a subsequent class, within six weeks after the drawing ends, their billets will be sold to the fortunate adventurers in the preceding class, or to such as shall apply for the same. The fortunate adventurers in the last class, who draw 50 dollars, shall, upon application to the commissioners of the loan offices in the respective states, where the drawers reside, receive their money, without any deduction, and all who draw above that sum, shall receive in like manner, without deduction, for the sums drawn, bank treasury notes payable at the end of five years after the drawing, at the loan office of the state in which the drawers reside. The interest to commence from the last day of drawing, and to be paid annually at the said respective loan-offices:

That, for carrying into execution the said lottery, there shall be seven managers, who shall give bond, and be on oath, for the faithful discharge of their duty:

That the money, as fast as received by the managers for billets, be lodged in the continental treasury:

That the drawing of the first class begin at Philadelphia, on the 1st of March, 1777, or sooner, if sooner full.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, November 19, 1776.**

The convention of Maryland having appointed new delegates, two of them attending, produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read, as follows :

**"MARYLAND. In Convention, November 19, 1776.**

*Resolved*, That the hon. Matthew Tilghman, esq. and Thomas Johnson, jun. William Paca, Thomas Stone, Samuel Chase, Benjamin Rumsey, and Charles Carroll, Bar. esquires, or any three or more of them, be delegates to represent this state in Congress, until the first day of March next, or until the general assembly shall make further order therein ; and that the said delegates, or any three or more of them, be authorized and empowered to concur with the other United States, or a majority of them, in forming a confederation, and in making foreign alliances ; provided that such confederation, when formed, be not binding upon this state without the assent of the general assembly ; and the said delegates, or any three or more of them, are also authorized and empowered to concur in any measures which may be resolved on by Congress, for carrying on the war with Great-Britain, and securing the liberties of the United States, reserving always to this state the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal police thereof. And the said delegates, or any three or more of them, are hereby authorized and empowered, notwithstanding any measure heretofore taken to concur with the Congress, or a majority of them, in accommodating our unhappy difference with Great-Britain, on such terms as the Congress, or a majority of them, shall think proper.

Extract from the minutes :

G. DUVAL."

*Resolved*, That the board of treasury be directed, in settling brigadier-general Armstrong's accounts, to allow his charge for travelling expenses to and from South-Carolina, amounting to 400 dollars :

A letter, of the 16th, from general Washington, and one of the 17th, from C. Biddle, were read.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 100 three pounders, 50 six pounders, 50 twelve pounders, 13 eighteen pounders, and 13 twenty-four pounders, all of brass, be immediately provided as field artillery, for the use of the armies of the United States :

That the secret committee be directed to take the most effectual measures for procuring the said brass artillery ; that the said committee confer with the committee for procuring cannon, and consult with them how many they can provide :

That this matter be kept as secret as the nature of the business will admit.

*Resolved*, That 400 dollars be advanced to the delegates of North-Carolina, for the use of that state, which is to be accountable.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report on the lottery ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That each of the managers shall receive for his trouble one-tenth per centum on all the money he shall receive on the sale of the tickets :

That the tickets or billets be sold for ready money :

That each of the managers give bond to the president, for the use of the Unit-

ed States, in the penalty of 20,000 dollars, for the faithful discharge of trust.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the committee appointed to hear appeal against the sentence passed on the libel, John Barry, &c. in the Betsey, &c. in the room of Mr. Rutledge.

The member chosen, Mr. Chase.

Congress being informed, there are two ensigncies vacant in the 6th battalion, proceeded to elect persons to fill up the same; and the ballot taken,

George Howard and Jacob Laudermilk were elected.

The committee of treasury reported, that there ought to be advanced to Colonel James Livingston the sum of 2,000 dollars, for which he is to agree with the commissioners for auditing the accounts in the northern department.

That there is due to Edward Rutledge, esq. for cash he paid by order of Congress, to Joseph Beck, an express to South-Carolina, with despatches accepted with Kirkland, &c. the sum of 133.30 dollars, and for the expenses of himself, Dr. Franklin, and Mr. Adams, a committee to Staten-Island and 71.30 dollars; the whole amounting to 204.60 dollars:

To Jos. Baldwin, for ferriage of militia over Neshaminy ferry, 6.54 dollars

To Samuel Pugh, for victualling troops of the flying-camp, on the 13th instant, 8 dollars:

To John Jarvis, for ferriage over Neshaminy, 12.21 dollars, and for his expenses to different expresses, 10.36 dollars, the whole 22.57 dollars:

That there should be paid to the board of war, to be by them sent to Benjamin Harrison, jun. esq. deputy pay-master general in Virginia, the sum of 300,000 dollars, for the use of the army in that department:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the board of war, 13th instant: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commissary-general, or his deputies, make regular returns of all rations issued or paid to the officers and privates of any regiment, troop, or company in the service of the states, to the adjutant-general, or his deputies, to be by him inserted in the general returns of the army, and transmitted to Congress monthly:

That, on any sick or disabled non-commissioned officer or soldier sent to any hospital or sick-quarters, the captain or commandant of the regiment or company to which he belongs, shall send to the surgeon, or director of the said hospital, or give to the non-commissioned officer or soldier, sent to the hospital or quarters, a certificate, countersigned by the pay-master of the regiment, if he be with the regiment, of what pay is due to such sick non-commissioned officer or private, at the time of his entering the hospital or quarters, and the captain or commandant of the troop or company, shall not receive the pay of the said soldier in hospital or quarters, or include him in any pay abstract during his continuance therein. And, in case any non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be discharged from the hospital or quarters, as unfit for farther service, a certificate shall be given him, by the surgeon or director, of what pay is then due to him; and the said non-commissioned officer or soldier, so discharged, shall be entitled to receive his pay at any pay-office, or from any pay-master in the service of the United States; the said pay-master, receiving such original certificate, to prevent impositions, and giving the non-commissioned officer or soldier his discharge, or a certified copy thereof, mentioning, at the same time, his having been paid:

That this resolution be transmitted to the commanders in chief in each of the several departments, to be by them given out in orders, and then delivered to the directors of the hospitals in each department, who are to cause the same to be fixed up in some conspicuous place, or places, in every military hospital, for the information of all concerned:

That letters be immediately sent to the councils of safety, conventions, or legislatures of Pennsylvania, and the states to the southward thereof, desiring them, forthwith, to lay up magazines of military stores, ammunition, and salt provisions, in the safest and most convenient places in the said states, respectively, for the use of such continental troops and militia, as it may be necessary to bring into the field in the ensuing winter, for the defence of these states: That some proper person be appointed to act in the capacity of armorer, to assist the commissary of stores in inspecting, superintending repairs, and taking care of all continental arms in the public magazines at Philadelphia. Congress deem it necessary, upon every principle of propriety, to remind several states, how indispensable it is to the common safety, that they pursue the most immediate and vigorous measures to furnish their respective quotas of troops for the new army, as the time of service, for which the present army is enlisted, is so near expiring, that the country may be left in a condition in a great measure defenceless, unless quickly supplied by new enlistees.

*Resolved*, That major Stewart, who brought the late intelligence from Gen. Mifflin, and who is recommended as a deserving officer, have the rank of lieutenant-colonel by brevet, and be presented with a sword of the value of one hundred dollars.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *November 20, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That 40,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. J. Mease, for the public service; he to be accountable.

The keeper of the public prison, having informed Congress, that he has discovered a plot among the prisoners to effect an escape, which one of them has accomplished; and that he has good reason to believe horses are purchased in Philadelphia, and kept ready for them, when they shall have escaped from prison; it was, thereupon,

*Resolved*, That the gaol-keeper be directed to keep the prisoners in his custody close locked up till further orders:

That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to examine Mr. Jewell, the gaol-keeper, respecting this matter, and to take every measure in their power to find out the accomplices in the plot, if any there be.

A letter, of the 18th, from lord Stirling, was read.

The board of war, to whom were referred the memorials from captain Lockwood and captain Oswald, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That such parts of the said memorials as relate to their pay, be referred to the board of treasury.

A letter, of the 2d, from the council of safety of Maryland, was read, and referred to the board of war.

A letter, of the 6th, from general Lee to Dr. Franklin, having been sent to the board of war, and by them opened, was laid before Congress and read:

*Ordered*, That the board of war prepare a letter to general Lee, and report the same to Congress.

Congress proceeded to the election of managers of the lottery, and the ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz.

Sharp Delany, John Purviance, Owen Biddle, Francis Lewis, jun. Jacob Barge, Jonathan B. Smith, and James Searle.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the secret committee, in the room of Mr. Bartlett, who is absent.

The member chosen, Mr. Whipple.

**Resolved,** That the post-master general be directed to remove Bessonet, of Bristol, in Pennsylvania, from the office of deputy post-master, and appoint some other trusty person, in that town, to that office :

That the committee, appointed to enquire into the circumstances of the loss of the packet from general Washington, be directed to apply to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to apprehend Bessonet, of Bristol, and his bar-keeper, and bring them to Philadelphia, for examination, taking care to keep them apart, and that they have the assistance of the continental troops in Philadelphia, if necessary :

That the said committee write to the commanding officer of the continental troops in New-Jersey, to make diligent search for one Wilkins, who was at the tavern in Bristol when the packet was lost, and to send him, if found, under guard to Philadelphia.

**Resolved,** That the board of war be empowered to administer oaths to persons examined by them.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To lieut. Smith, for his expenses with a party to escort money to Brunswick, and to Fort Montgomery, a balance of 19.19 dollars, the amount of his account being 55.19 dollars, of which he received from Robert Erwin, 32 dollars, and from R. Dallam, 4 dollars, remains 19.19 dollars.

**Ordered,** That the same be paid.

The board of treasury reported farther instructions to the commissioners for auditing the accounts of the army, under the command of general Washington, which were agreed to as follows :

That in adjusting the accounts of persons, whose particular circumstances may have rendered them unable to procure vouchers, or who, by unavoidable accidents, have lost the same, or any part of the public stores committed to their care, the commissioners endeavour to obtain the best information from the general officers, or other persons relative to such accounts, and use a discretionary power in administering oaths or affirmations previous to their settling the same :

That the commissioners send to the state of Virginia, and to the states northward and eastward thereof, for their accounts against the said army, if such accounts should not be forwarded, agreeable to a circular letter from the board of treasury to the said states :

That the commissioners use every precaution to prevent the loss of any public books or papers, that may be in their possession ; and, for this purpose, that they apply to the quarter-master general for a wagon and horses, to be under their direction :

That they consider the flying-camp as part of general Washington's army, and adjust the accounts accordingly :

The marine committee brought in a report for increasing the navy of the United States, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

**Resolved,** That there be immediately undertaken,

In New-Hampshire,	1 ship of 74 guns,	In Pennsylvania,	1 brig of 18 guns, and a
In Massachusetts-Bay,	1 ditto of 74 ditto,		packet-boat ;
	1 ditto of 36 ditto,	In Virginia,	2 frigates of 36 ditto each ;
In Pennsylvania,	1 ditto of 74 ditto,	In Maryland,	2 ditto of 36 ditto each.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, November 21, 1776.

**Resolved,** That 250 dollars be advanced to captain Gabriel Long, of the late colonel Stevenson's battalion, for the purpose of recruiting his company ; he to be accountable :

That captain Long's accounts be referred to the board of treasury.

the necessity of obtaining an army immediately, to oppose the designs of the enemy, is so evident and pressing as to render it proper to give all possibility to that business;

*Resolved*, That each state be at liberty to direct their recruiting officers to recruit their men either for the war or three years, upon the respective bounties established by Congress, without presenting inlisting rolls for both terms, according to former resolution; keeping it always in view, that, in the opinion of Congress, the public service will be best promoted by inlistments for the war, if recruiting service is not retarded thereby.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due, to Samuel Lockwood, for his pay as assistant-engineer in the army in Pennsylvania, from the 5th November, 1775, to the 18th of May, 1776, at 20 dollars per month, 128.60 dollars; and from the 19th of May, to the 5th November, 30 dollars per month, 167 dollars; the whole, 295.60 dollars:

to John Bates, for two fire hoods, shovel, tongs, &c. for the use of the treasury, 16.36 dollars.

*Resolved*, That the said accounts be paid.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *November 22, 1776.*

A letter, of the 20th, from general Mercer, was read:

*Resolved*, That an extract thereof be sent to the assembly and council of Pennsylvania.

Congress being informed that a number of sick soldiers were sent to Philadelphia from the flying-camp, and lodged in the barracks, and it being apprehended that their continuance in the barracks may endanger the health of the soldiers there,

*Resolved*, That the medical committee take charge of the said sick, and have them quartered in private houses, and properly taken care of, and that they immediately attend to this business:

That Dr. Ludwig be directed to attend the said sick.

The committee to whom was referred the petition and memorial of Mrs. Zedwitz, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Where-

*Resolved*, That lieutenant-colonel Zedwitz be removed to Philadelphia, and be confined in the state-prison; and that due care be taken to prevent him from having intercourse or correspondence with the enemies of these states:

That the sum of 58.49 dollars be paid to Mrs. Zedwitz, in full for services rendered for the continent, as set forth in her petition:

That the further sum of 80 dollars be paid to the said Mrs. Zedwitz, in full for six months' pay due to her husband.

*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania; that state to be accountable.

Congress taking into consideration the present state of the army, of which parts have already disbanded, and others will probably do so when the term for which they are engaged for, shall expire, which must soon happen; so that there is great danger that the enemy must be opposed either by unequal numbers, or by militia, not only a more expensive but a less efficacious aid than regular troops; and there being good grounds to hope that vigorous efforts at this critical juncture, may bring the war to a speedy as well as happy conclusion:

*Resolved*, That blank commissions be sent to general Washington, and that he be empowered to insert therein the names of such officers as he shall think proper, without revoking those appointments which have been made by commission from any of the United States; and the general, commissioners, and officers, are conjured to recruit, by all the means in their power, the regiments now

or lately in the camp; and that a committee of three be appointed to repair to head-quarters, and, consulting with the general, assist in the accomplishment of this necessary business.

The members chosen, Mr. Paca, Mr. Witherspoon, and Mr. Ross.

*Ordered*, That the said committee make particular enquiry why the troops are not paid, and that they enquire into, and redress to the utmost of their power, the just grievances of the soldiers.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 166,666.60 dollars be advanced to the state of Massachusetts-Bay, in part of their account against the continent; the said state to be accountable.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the resolutions respecting the lottery be delivered to the managers, and that the said managers proceed immediately in carrying the lottery into execution.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the application from the convention of New-York, respecting the waste of hides in the army: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the commissaries in each department, be directed to employ proper persons to take immediate charge of the hides and tallow in their respective districts; that the former may be tanned into leather, or, at least, as far cured as to prevent their being spoiled, and the latter rendered into kegs or casks, that there be no waste of those valuable articles, but that they may be stored for the use of the continent, and be subject to the orders of Congress; and that the said commissaries be strongly urged to pay due attention to this resolve, it being a matter of considerable importance.

*Resolved*, That two months' pay be advanced to Dr. Ludwig, of the German battalion; he to be accountable.

A state of the inconveniencies to which the troops on the Eastern-Shore of Virginia are particularly subject, was laid before Congress and read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

A letter, of the 16th, from J. Trumbull, commissary-general, was read, advising, that he had, on that day, drawn on the president, at four days sight, in favor of Mr. Matthew Irwin, for the sum of 20,000 dollars, to purchase pork and flour, and desiring the same may be paid and charged to his (J. Trumbull's) account:

*Resolved*, That the president draw an order on the treasurer for the payment of the said bills, and that the money be accordingly charged to the account of J. Trumbull.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, November 23, 1776.

A letter, of the 19th and 21st, from general Washington, was read:

*Resolved*, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general:

That 250,000 dollars be sent to R. Dallam, esq.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, with full powers, to devise and execute measures for effectually reinforcing general Washington, and obstructing the progress of general Howe's army; and they are ordered to proceed immediately on this business.

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Smith, Mr. Chase, Mr. Clymer, and Mr. Stockton.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to order the Virginia battalions, on the Eastern-Shore, and the two Pennsylvania battalions, commanded by colonel Mackay and colonel Cooke, to march, with all possible expedition; the former to Philadelphia, and the two latter by the nearest route to Brunswick, in New-Jersey, or to join general Washington wherever he may be; and that the said board use every means in their power to expedite the march of these troops; and they are ordered to attend immediately to this business.

better to oppose the progress of the enemy,

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to order, under his immediate command, such of the forces, now in the northern department, as have been raised in the states of Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, and that the commanding officer in the northern department, be directed to apply to the legislatures of the eastern states, to afford him such assistance as they may stand in need of.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed to propose to general Howe, the exchange of William Franklin, esq. late governor of New-Jersey, for brigadier-general Thompson.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due, to the committee of Northampton county, and to be paid to Jesse Jones, for supplies of provisions, wagons, &c. to the militia on their march to New-Jersey, and for supplies to prisoners and continental troops, 1357 54 dollars: John Ashbe, for a wagon, horses, and a negro man, his property, lost in the service of the states at New-York, 786 60 dollars.

John Cox, for eight rifle guns, supplied by Edward Snicker, for the use of captain Gabriel Long's company, of Virginia riflemen, 146 60 dollars:

Lieut. Bogart & Ball, two prisoners of the British navy, and to be paid to John Smith, esq. for their allowance, from 9th July, to 19th November, 1776, five, 19 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 76 dollars:

Brigadier-general Armstrong, for his pay and rations, from 1st March, to 1st November, instant, inclusive, and his travelling expenses to and from South Carolina, 1781 63 dollars:

Dr. David Jameson, for sundry medicines and attendance to sick soldiers in captain Grier's company, and captain Nelson's company, in the continental service, 290 24 dollars:

Colonel Jeremiah Dugan, for sundry supplies to the army in Canada, for which he has now produced a voucher, the want of which prevented the same from being reported the 19th of August last, the sum of 484 73 dollars:

The board of war, for a draft of R. Dallam, esq. deputy pay-master general, in New-Brunswick, the 21st instant, in favor of colonel Clement Biddle, pay quarter-master general, 10,000 dollars:

That there should be paid to Richard Bache, esq. post-master general, as an allowance, for the use of the post-office, 2666 60 dollars:

*Resolved*, That the said sums be paid.

*Resolved*, That by any thing heretofore done, it is not intended to prejudice or lengthen the right or claim of the United States, or any of them, to any territory in America, nor to determine in what proportion or manner the expenses of the war shall be raised or adjusted, except as to the first three millions of dollars emitted by Congress, and a farther emission of three millions of dollars, on or before December 26, 1775.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to the commissioners appointed by the convention of Maryland, to raise their quota of troops; they to be accountable.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, the Congress adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, November 25, 1776.

A letter, of the 23d, from general Washington, at Newark, was read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of the whole Congress; and that general Mifflin, who brought the letter, be desired to attend the said committee.

Congress then resolved itself into a committee of the whole; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have had under consideration the letter referred to them, and have

heard general Mifflin on the subject; and, thereupon, came to resolutions, which he was ordered to report; but, that not having finished, leave to sit again.

The resolutions reported from the committee of the whole, being agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested, forth, immediately, the associators in the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and in the counties of Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, and Northampton, to continue in the service of the United States, six weeks from the time to the army, unless sooner discharged by Congress:

That the volunteers who shall enrol to serve the United States on or before the first of March next, shall, nevertheless, be discharged as soon as the exigencies of public affairs will possibly admit; it being the intention of Congress to keep them no longer than the present emergency shall render it absolutely necessary:

That \$5,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania for the public service; the said state to be accountable:

That 4000 dollars be advanced to colonel Hausegger, for the use of his regiment; he to be accountable:

That the board of war be directed to order the German battalions to march immediately, and join general Washington:

That the said board write to governor Henry, of Virginia, and request that he order the light-horse, in the service of that state, to march, with an expedition, to join general Washington:

That the said board order brigadier-general Roche de Fermoy, to march immediately to general Washington, instead of going to the northward:

*Resolved*, That general Mifflin be directed to stay in the city of Philadelphia until general Washington shall require his attendance at the camp: That general Washington be informed of this by the President.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the army.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, November 26, 1776.

A letter, of the 8th, from George Morgan, at Pittsburg, and one from the council of safety of Maryland, were read.

*Resolved*, That 1000 dollars be advanced to Robert Erwin, major-general, for the public service; he to be accountable.

Congress being informed that some persons in the city of Philadelphia, governed by principles inimical to the cause of America, and with violence and extortion, have monopolized and engrossed shoes, stockings, and other necessaries for the army, whilst the soldiers of the continent, fighting for the liberties of their country, are exposed to the injuries of the weather in this inclement season:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the assembly of the state of Pennsylvania, to adopt such immediate measures for remedying this evil, as wisdom shall suggest to be adequate to the present purpose, and for preventing like pernicious practices for the future.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a regiment of artillery, to be armed with muskets and bayonets, instead of fusees, be raised in the state of Virginia, on continental establishment; the two companies, already raised there, to be part of the first regiment; which is to be composed of one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, and ten companies, each to consist of one captain three lieutenants, one serjeant, four bombardiers, eight gunners, four corporals, and 48 men.

*Resolved*, That 1150 dollars be paid to Gerard W. Beekman or order, and to the account of Richard Dallam, esq. deputy pay-master general, the being in full of a draught of the said R. Dallam on R. Peters, esq. secretary of the board of war, in favor of the said G. W. Beekman, dated New York, November 15th, 1776.

F. Lewis, jun. having informed Congress that he cannot, consistent with his private engagements, undertake to be a manager of the lottery, and to be excused from that service,

*Resolved*, That he be excused, and that another be elected in his room: ballots being taken, Dr. David Jackson was elected.

*Resolved*, That the committee, who brought in the scheme of the lottery, continue the managers thereof, in order that they may proceed on that business. Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the army; and, after some time, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, that the committee have had under consideration the matter to them referred, and have come to sundry resolutions, which were ordered to lay before Congress.

The resolutions reported from the committee of the whole, being read, were as follows:

*Resolved*, That the cannon-committee be directed to enquire what quantity of cannon are on board the prize-ship that arrived yesterday in the port of Philadelphia; and, if they are fit for field-artillery, to take measures to have them mounted on proper carriages, and sent to general Washington:

That the assembly of the state of Pennsylvania be requested to give immediate direction, that the brass field-pieces, with the artillery companies, or the pieces singly, if there be no such companies belonging to this state, be sent on the first possible expedition, sent to general Washington's army in New Jersey; and that they be assured, that, as soon as the situation of affairs will admit, they shall be returned, or others in lieu of the said field pieces:

That Mr. Mease, the continental commissary in the city of Philadelphia, be directed to go to the several shops and stores in the said city, and purchase, for the use of the army of the United States, such articles as are necessary for the winter of this and the approaching season of the year; and that he be empowered to employ as many persons as he shall judge necessary to assist him in his service:

That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested, with all possible expedition, to cause application to be made to the house-keepers and others in the said state, for as many blankets and woollen stockings as each can spare, for the use of the soldiers under the immediate command of general Washington in New-Jersey; and that they be delivered, as fast as collected, to Mr. Mease, the continental commissary:

That it be recommended to the said council of safety, to appoint persons to receive the blankets and woollen stockings, so collected, as aforesaid, that the value of them may be paid:

That the committee, who are sent to the camp, be directed to make particular inquiry into the abuses in the medical department in the army, and report the same to Congress.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, November 27, 1776.

A memorial from Thomas Denef was read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The board of war brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: upon,

*Resolved*, That Congress appoint the officers of the artillery battalion, agreed to be raised in Virginia.

A petition and memorial from John Sergeant was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee on the letter from Thomas Cushing, esq. and that the report on that subject by them made, be re-committed.

*Resolved*, That the delegates from the four New England governments be directed to take the most effectual measures to have, at least, 10,000 pair of shoes, and 10,000 pair of stockings, purchased in those states, and sent to general Washington's head-quarters, with all possible expedition, for the use of the soldiers under his command.

*Ordered*, That the secret committee take proper and effectual measures to procure a quantity of hard money, not less than 20,000 dollars, to be lodged in the hands of the commander in chief, for the purpose of secret services.

The committee who were appointed, in conjunction with the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to examine Bessonet and his bar-keeper, having reported, that, after the most diligent enquiry, they find nothing proved against Mr. Bessonet, and that the council of safety and said committee are of opinion he ought to be discharged.

*Ordered*, That the said committee inform the said council of safety, that Congress have no objection to their discharging Mr. Bessonet.

The committee appointed to repair to the northern army, having returned, made a report, which was read :

*Ordered*, That the same, together with the papers accompanying it, be referred to a committee of five, and that they sit from day to day, and report thereon as soon as possible :

The members chosen, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Clymer, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Harrison.

*Resolved*, That 2500 dollars be paid to Mr. Abraham Livingston, and charged to the account of Jonathan Trumbull, jun. esq. deputy pay-master general, the same being in full of his draught in favour of the said A. Livingston, dated Albany, 14th November, 1776.

An appeal having been lodged against the sentence passed in the court of admiralty for the state of Virginia, on the libel, "Levin Jones, &c. vs. the sloop Vulcan :"

*Resolved*, That the hearing and determining the said appeal, be referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Paine, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Chase.

*Resolved*, That three members be added to the committee appointed to revise the resolutions relative to captures :

The members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Chase.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the legislatures of the United States, respectively, to pass such laws, as will, most effectually tend to prevent the counterfeiting or forging of the tickets of the public lottery.

A letter from Mr. Ross, Mr. Paca, and Mr. Witherspoon was read, informing, that they have appointed an assistant quarter-master and commissary, to provide for a number of sick, and take care of stores sent to Princeton.

*Ordered*, That the president inform them that Congress approve of the appointments.

*Ordered*, That the board of war, in conjunction with a member of the council of safety of Pennsylvania, seize the person and papers of Monsieur Bonvo-lour ; and, having examined him and them, report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to detain such companies of the German battalion as have not already marched.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, November 28, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 300 dollars be advanced to William Whitely, lieutenant of colonel Richardson's battalion of the flying camp, from Maryland, for the use of some sick soldiers of said battalion, in Philadelphia, for which he is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That William Bradford, second-lieutenant in captain Smith's company of colonel Stevenson's battalion, be promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the room of the first lieutenant of the said company, resigned.

An plan of an artillery-yard being laid before Congress,

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a committee of three :

Members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Middleton.

*Resolved*, That 533.30 dollars be advanced to colonel L. Cadwallader, for the use of his battalion ; he to be accountable :

And a like sum of 533.30 dollars be advanced to lieutenant-colonel Penrose, for the use of the men belonging to colonel Magaw's battalion ; he to be accountable.

A report of a committee on the affairs of the northern army, brought in a report, was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a letter be sent to governor Trumbull, desiring him to order a cannon, carrying shot of 18 pounds weight, to be cast at Salisbury furnace, and transported to Ticonderoga, with all possible expedition :

And that skilful persons be sent to examine the Salisbury and Mr. Livingston's furnaces ; and, if it be found that a sufficient number of cannon may be made there, that proper artificers be forthwith employed in the work an agreement being first made with governor Trumbull and Mr. Livingston for that purpose :

And that the commissary-general be directed to procure provisions sufficient for the army, during eight months, to be sent to Albany, and from thence to Ticonderoga, and the like quantity to remain in Albany, and be removed elsewhere as occasion may require ; and that the commissary-general be directed to Albany, a sufficient quantity of salt to cure the said provisions :

And that general Schuyler be informed of the cannon ordered from Salisbury to Ticonderoga, and directed to have carriages provided for them :

*Resolved*, That the committee have leave to sit again.

A letter, of the 19th, from gen. Schuyler at Saratoga, was read.

*Resolved*, That the commissary-general be empowered to import such quantities of rice from the southern states, as he shall think necessary for the use of the army.

A report of a medical committee, to whom Dr. Shippen's letter was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Dr. Morgan take care of such sick and wounded of the army of the United States, as are on the east side of Hudson's river, and that Dr. Shippen take care of such sick and wounded as are on the west side of Hudson's river ; and that they both be directed to use the utmost diligence in attending the surgeons and mates of the army, so that the sick and wounded may be effectually provided with every thing necessary for their recovery.

*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of South Carolina ; the said state to be accountable.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, November 29, 1776.

Letters, from S. Purviance, and one from J. Connolly, and a petition from John Jay, were read :

*Resolved*, That the petition from J. Sullivan be referred to a committee of five, and that they be directed to enquire, minutely, into the facts relative

to the capitulations entered into by major Sherbourne and major Butterfield, in Canada ; that they be empowered to send for persons and papers, and to examine witnesses on oath, and that they report to Congress :

The members chosen, Mr. Chase, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Wythe.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mease supply the sick soldiers, in the house of employment in Philadelphia, each, with one shirt.

A petition from major John Lamb was read : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the general be directed to include major Lamb in the next exchange of prisoners.

The committee on the affairs of the northern army, brought in a farther report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the medical committee be directed to provide sufficient quantities of antiscorbutics for the use of the hospitals in the northern army :

That the hospital at Fort-George be continued for the reception of soldiers laboring with contagious diseases, and that there be a general hospital erected on Mount-Independence :

That a suitable spot of ground for a garden be enclosed in the neighborhood of the general hospital, to supply the army with vegetables ; and that laborers be hired to cultivate it, under the direction of an overseer, to be appointed by the general or commanding officer :

That the general, or commanding officer, in each of the armies, cause strict enquiry to be made into the conduct of the directors of the hospitals, and their surgeons, officers, and servants, and of the regimental surgeons, that if there has been any just ground of complaint in those departments, the offenders may be punished :

That the colonel or commanding officer of every regiment, make frequent enquiry into the health of the men under his command, and report the state thereof, with any negligence, mal-practice, or other misconduct of the surgeons or others, to the general, and to Congress, delivering copies of such reports to all persons therein accused :

That the general, or commander in chief of the northern army, direct all the batteaux on lakes Champlain and George to be immediately repaired :

That 100 batteaux be built at Schenectady, so as to be ready for use in February or March next, at farthest ; and, for this purpose, that boards, pitch, oakum, and other necessary materials, be collected, and artificers employed, by the general or commanding officer :

*Resolved*, That the committee have leave to sit again.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To P. E. du Simitiere, for designing, making, and drawing a medal for general Washington, 32 dollars :

To John Dunlap, for printing sundry resolves of Congress, commissions, proclamations, &c. 654.66 dollars :

To John Bates, for camp-kettles delivered to Robert Towers, commissary, 80 dollars :

To Joseph Greenvold, for portorage of powder, to the magazine, 37.45 dollars :

To James Anderson, for ferriage of Virginia troops, wagons, and militia, over Susquehanna, 27.18 dollars :

To the estate of captain Spring, for storage of continental powder, 111.38 dollars :

To the following prisoners from Canada, and to be paid to Mr. Ross, the sum of 229.77 dollars : viz.

To captain Thomson, expenses of himself and baggage from Albany to Trento, 11.55 dollars, and his allowance from 26th April to 28th November, inclusive, 31 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 62 dollars :

To Alexander M'Culloch, expenses of himself and baggage from Albany to

on, 10.35 dollars, and his allowance from 26th April to 28th November, five, 31 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, 62 dollars : And,

William Goodwin, his expenses of family and baggage, from Albany to New-York, 14.27 dollars, and his allowance from 27th March to 27th November, inclusive, 35 weeks, at 2 dollars, 70 dollars :

John House, for his account of ferriage of troops, wagons, and horses on the river Potomac, 30.30 dollars :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the secret committee be directed to provide, as soon as may be, arms and equipage for 3000 horse.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to consider and report a better method for establishing and training cavalry in this continent :

The members chosen, Mr. R. H Lee, Mr. Paine, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Floyd.

A petition from Alexander Mercer was read, and referred to the board of war.

The committee appointed to confer with the managers of the lottery, brought report, which was taken into consideration :

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the prizes only be drawn :

That the managers be authorized to employ as many clerks to assist in numbering the tickets, as may be necessary for expediting the business :

That two presses be employed for printing the tickets :

*Ordered*, That the remainder of the report be re-committed.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing the officers of the regiment of artillery ordered to be raised in Virginia.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, November 30, 1776.

A letter, of the 27th, from general Washington, with a list of the prisoners taken by the enemy during the campaign of 1776 ; and one, of the same date, from the council of safety of New-York, were read :

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the board of war, and that they confer with colonel Miles, who is come from New-York on his parole, to expedite the exchange of prisoners.

*Resolved*, That 1000 dollars be advanced to Robert Erwin, wagon-master general, for the public service ; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to have the carriages for field pieces got ready, with all possible expedition, at the expense of the continent, to be delivered as fast as made, to the order of the board of war.

The commissioners for Indian affairs, in the middle department, having submitted to Congress the minutes of their proceedings,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the standing committee for Indian affairs.

The committee appointed to confer with the managers of the lottery, brought farther report, which was taken into consideration ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the gratuity to the managers of the lottery, for their trouble in the conduct of that business, be left to the future judgment of Congress :

That the managers be authorized to appoint agents for the sale of the tickets in the several states, and offer them one-tenth per cent. on the tickets or billets by each respectively sold :

That the public be at the risk of conveying the tickets or billets to the agents in the different states :

That the agents pay the money received by them for the sale of tickets or billets to the commissioners of the loan-office of the state where they are sold,

taking receipts therefor, and transmit them to the managers of the lot in Philadelphia.

*Resolved*, That the state of New-York be empowered to raise a battalion on the continental establishment :

That the convention or council of safety of New-York be empowered to appoint an aid-major to each of the battalions raised by that state, the expense of which to be borne by that state.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress proceeded to the election of officers for the artillery battalion, ordered to be raised in Virginia; ballots being taken, the following were elected :

Charles Harrison, esq. colonel ; Edward Carrington, esq. lieutenant-colonel ; Christiern Holmer, major ; Samuel Denny, William Pierce, Nathaniel Buller Clairborne, Joseph Scot, William Murray, Spotswood Dandridge, thew Smith, Sir John Pettus, and William Waters, captains.

*Resolved*, That the governor and council of Virginia be requested to recommend proper persons for subaltern officers.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to purchase, for the service, six wagons, with four horses and proper harness to each wagon, to employ suitable drivers.

An address from Nicholas Biddle, John Barry, Thomas Read, Christopher Mendenhall, and John Nicholson, was laid before Congress, and read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the marine committee, who are to pursue such measures as they shall think proper in consequence thereof.

The assembly of Pennsylvania having, by Mr. Morris, informed Congress that they have appointed a committee of their body to confer with a committee of Congress, on the requisition of Congress, to call forth immediate associations of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, and of the counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, and Northampton :

*Ordered*, That the board of war confer with the committee of the assembly of Pennsylvania on this subject, and agree on such measures as shall be most for the public service.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

To Steiner & Cist, for paper and printing minutes of Congress, the trouble and expenses in attending the making the paper for the loan-office 150 15 dollars.

To lieutenant Peacock, a prisoner of the 7th regiment, for his confinement from 20th December, 1775, to the 28th November, 1776, 48 weeks, 96 dollars :

To Dr. William Currie, for his bill of medicines and provisions for the soldiers of colonel Scott's and colonel Lawson's Virginia regiments, 67 50 dollars.

That there should be advanced to major John Lamb, for the payment of his men of his artillery-company, 2000 dollars ; he to be accountable :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the committee of intelligence be directed and empowered to establish expresses, to go daily to and from head-quarters.

*Resolved*, That when any resolutions are passed which respect the United States, or any of them, or the armies of the said states, they be sent by express, if the regular post is interrupted or not ready, provided the president shall judge it necessary.

A petition from John Noble Taylor, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SUNDAY, December, 1, 1776.

Congress, on a summons, met this day, when two letters, of the 50th general Washington, at Brunswick, were read ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to order the German battalion to march immediately to join general Washington, and that the said board use every measure in their power to expedite their march with all possible despatch:

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to take effectual measures for supplying guards for the public stores, &c. in the room of the German battalion:

That the secret committee be directed to appoint one or more trusty persons, to proceed immediately to the eastern states, and see that the clothing and stores, which have been ordered to be purchased for the army, be collected and forwarded to the army, with all possible despatch; and that the said person, or persons, have power to purchase, or cause to be purchased, such necessary clothing as can be procured in those states, and to have it forwarded to the army:

That general Washington be informed, he has the full approbation of Congress to order the troops, on the east side of Hudson's river, over to the west side of that river, whenever he shall think it conducive to the public service so to do:

That general Washington be directed to order the clothes, which have been, or shall be sent to head-quarters, or to any of the camps, to be distributed, first among such of the soldiers as stand most in need of them:

That Mr. J. Mease be directed to purchase all the hats and caps he can procure, proper for soldiers, and to employ as great a number of taylors as possible in making up clothes for soldiers; and forward those articles, from time to time, as fast as ready, to general Washington:

That the medical committee be directed to take such steps, as they shall judge proper, for the accommodation of the sick of the army.

- Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

MONDAY, *December 2*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That 800 dollars be advanced to colonel L. Cadwallader, for the use of the men belonging to his battalion; he to be accountable:

That 800 dollars be advanced captain Doyle, for the use of his independent company; he to be accountable:

That 500 dollars be advanced to Robert Jewell, for which he is to be accountable:

That 5333.30 dollars be advanced to the commissioners for Indian affairs in the middle department.

A letter, of the 1st, from general Washington, was read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war, and that they communicate the contents to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, and take such measures, in consequence thereof, as they shall judge proper.

Captain Montgomery having offered his service, with that of his crew, as an artillery company,

*Resolved*, That they be taken into the service of the continent for two months, unless sooner discharged.

*Resolved*, That he, the said James Montgomery, be appointed captain, that Samuel Carson be appointed captain-lieutenant, and John Douglass, lieutenant, of said company:

That Mr. J. Mease be directed to advance one month's pay to captain Montgomery's men, upon their inlisting, and that a like advance be made to the other companies of artillery:

That the marine committee be empowered to advance 20 dollars to each seaman who will enter to serve on board the Randolph, captain Biddle, the same to be deducted out of their share of the prize-money.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to purchase, immediately, ten or twelve covered wagons for the artillery:

That the board of war give orders for removing by water to Chester bridge, the 2,000 barrels of beef, now under the care of commissary W.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested: expresses immediately to the counties that have been desired to send for associators, urging them forthwith to march, in order to oppose the advances of the enemy.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the governor and council of V. to take the most effectual measures for purchasing and collecting, for military use, all the copper and other materials fit for casting brass field-plates that can be got in that state, and that Congress will defray the cost of the same.

*Resolved*, That 100 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Virginia, use of the deputy pay-master general in that state.

A letter, of the 1st, from general Washington, was read.

Mr. Read, a delegate from Delaware state, attended, and produced: credentials of the appointment of delegates from that state, which were as follows:

“In Council, Nov. 8, 1776. Whereas George Read, John Dickinson, John Evans, esqrs. have been chosen by joint ballot of both houses of the Delaware state to represent the Delaware state in the Continental Congress: *Resolved*, they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully authorized and empowered for and in behalf of this state, to concert, agree to, and execute every thing which they or he, together with a majority of the Continental Congress judge necessary, for the defence, security, interest, and welfare of this particular, and of America in general; with power to adjourn to such places as shall appear most conducive to the public safety and interest. Sent for concurrence.

“In assembly, November 9, 1776. Read and concurred in:

“JOHN M·KINLEY, Secy.”

“A true copy:

“SLATOR CLAY, *Clerk of the Council*.”

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania to send immediately one of their gallies along the Jersey shore, between Philadelphia and Trenton, to bring over all the river craft, vessels, and boats from the New Jersey side of Delaware, in order to prevent their becoming serviceable to the enemy, in their attempts to cross the said river:

That it be earnestly recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania to order the battalions of this city immediately to march and join general Washington:

That the said council of safety be requested to furnish the wagon-master general with one thousand wagons for the use of the army; and, as in this present emergency of public affairs, such a supply of wagons is absolutely necessary, that it be recommended to the said council of safety to improve all the wagons, if they cannot be otherwise speedily procured.

Adjourned to six o'clock.

EODEN DIE, P. M.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to receive from Mr. Hymans the goods in his hands purchased for the state of New-York, paying him the balance due for the said goods, together with those he has now ready, to send to Washington, taking especial care that they be sent in so safe and secure manner as to avoid any danger of falling into the hands of the enemy.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, December 3, 1776.

A letter, of the 2d, from general Washington; one, of the same date, from adjutant-general Reed, and one from J. Mease, were read:

*Resolved*, That 50,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. J. Mease, for the public service; he to be accountable:

That 2000 dollars be advanced to lieutenant-colonel Antil, for the purpose of recruiting his regiment; he to be accountable:

That 14,000 dollars be advanced to major Charles Symes, for the use of the 12th Virginia battalion; he to be accountable.

Mr. Clarke, a delegate from the state of New-Jersey, attended, and produced the credentials of the appointment of delegates from that state, which were read as follows:

“ At a joint meeting of the council and assembly of the state of New-Jersey, held at Burlington, on the 30th day of November, 1776, the honorable Nathaniel Scudder in the chair; the joint meeting proceeded by ballot to the election of five delegates to represent this state in Congress, to serve for one year, unless a new appointment should be made before the expiration of that time; and the following persons were duly elected, viz. The honorable Richard Stockton, Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, esq. Dr. John Witherspoon, Abraham Clarke, esq. Jonathan Elmer, esq.

“ *Resolved*, That any one or more of the said delegates, who shall attend in Congress, be fully empowered to represent, and vote in behalf of this state. That the said delegates, or such of them as have not already taken the oaths of abjuration and allegiance mentioned in the act of assembly lately passed, entitled ‘An act for the security of the government of New-Jersey,’ do take the said oaths before they take their seats.

“ Signed by order of the council and assembly of the state of New-Jersey:

“ CHARLES PETTIT, *Secretary*.”

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to have the prisoners, now at Bristol, removed from thence back into the country.

*Resolved*, That Mrs. Chamier be permitted to go to her husband at New-York; and that Mrs. Lewis, at Flushing, on Long-Island, be required in exchange.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Mease be empowered and directed to settle with and pay the militia of the Maryland flying-camp.

That the commissary of provisions in Philadelphia supply with rations, in lieu of mileage, such of the Maryland troops as choose to go home:

That such of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the said troops as will enlist for three years, be immediately clothed; and that Mr. Mease be directed to detain as many of the clothes, now in his hands, as will be necessary for that purpose:

That each of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Maryland militia, who will not enlist for three years, but will engage to march to the immediate reinforcement of general Washington, and remain under his command one month, be supplied by Mr. Mease with a shirt, a pair of shoes, and a pair of stockings, on paying for the same:

That such of the militia as shall engage to serve to the 10th of March next, unless sooner discharged by Congress, be entitled to a pair of shoes and stockings, and to the same rations and the same monthly pay with the other troops on the continental establishment, to commence from the time of their enrolment; and that one months’ pay be advanced to each volunteer, upon his enrolment.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for giving the Indians in town an audience; and that the committee on Indian affairs be directed to prepare a proper speech to be delivered to them.

*Resolved*, That the officers of the Maryland troops be requested immediately to parade those troops, and to use their utmost influence to persuade their adoption of the terms proposed by Congress.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be directed, in case he has not entered

*Resolved*, That Melchior Salady be discharged, by the proper officer, from the company, provided he enter into the service of the said Hughes.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *December 7, 1776.*

A letter, of the 6th, from general Washington, at Trenton, and one, of the 21st to 25th November, from general Schuyler, at Saratoga, with sundry papers enclosed, were read:

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be empowered and directed to exchange such of the Canadians as they shall think proper.

*Ordered*, That the president write to the four New-England governments, and request them to use their utmost influence in raising their respective quotas of troops, and to hasten their march, with all possible diligence, to the places appointed for their rendezvous, by general Schuyler.

*Resolved*, That 100,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to be applied towards furnishing the several officers with bounty-money for inlisting men on the new establishment; the said council to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That captain Biddle be empowered to inlist into the continental service, such of the sailors in prison as he shall think proper.

The committee of treasury reported, that there is due, and to be paid to the order of Allen M'Donald, sen. Allen M'Donald, jun. Alexander M'Donald, Rennel M'Donald, and Archibald M'Donald, hostages sent by general Schuyler to Reading, for the allowance due to themselves and their three servants, from the 25th of September to the 10th of December, inclusive, 143 dollars:

That there should be advanced to Thomas Smith, for supplies to the troops of the 5th and 6th Virginia regiments, left sick at Wilmington, the sum of 677.25 dollars:

That there is due to lieutenant-colonel Jacob Boyer, for furnishing his battalion of militia with 7495 rations of provisions, on their march from Berks county to the camp in New-Jersey, 739.45 dollars:

To Thomas Edwards, for victualling the second battalion of militia, of Lancaster county, commanded by col. Curtis Grubb, on their march to Bergen, in New-Jersey, and for the hire of two baggage-wagons, 1319.61 dollars, to be paid to Philip Marsteller:

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That 1000 dollars be advanced to the committee for procuring cannon for the public service; the said committee to account for the expenditure.

*Resolved*, That for the more speedy and effectual discharge of business, the following rules be invariably observed:

That Congress be opened every morning at ten o'clock, Sundays excepted:

That Mr. President take the chair precisely at that time.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Indians were introduced, and the following speech was delivered to them:

*Brothers of the Six-Nations, Delawares and Shawanese,*

We, the delegates of the thirteen United States of America, are extremely pleased to see you. We take you by the hand, and bid you welcome to our great council-fire.

*Brothers,*

You say that God Almighty has been pleased to bring us together. You say well. He superintends and governs men and their actions. He now sees us. He judges of the sincerity of our hearts, and will punish those who deceive.

*Brothers, Sachems and Warriors,*

You have heard what our commissioners have said to you at Pittsburg,

ur directions. You have listened to their arguments; and your own  
n will suggest, that the conduct they have recommended to you, must be  
active of your happiness and welfare. We think that you must be fully  
inced that your safety, as nations, depends on preserving peace and friend-  
with the white people of this island.

e are sorry to hear of the death of your great men, and are well pleased  
our commissioners have wiped the tears from your eyes, and covered the  
es of our departed friends.

ur hearts are good towards all the Indians in the woods, who have friend-  
sposition towards us.

e love peace, and wish that the chain of friendship between us and you  
contract no rust. On our part, we will do every thing to keep it bright  
strong.

it should we be attacked by any tribe of Indians in the woods, we hope to  
ince them that we can repel their attempts with ease. Friendship, how-  
with you, is what we earnestly desire; our commissioners have told you  
nd they have not deceived you.

e now inform you, that we wish to sit down with you under the same tree  
ace; to water its roots and cherish its growth, so that it may shelter us  
you, and our and your children.

*Brothers,*

e have prepared some presents for you, which our commissioners will de-  
before your departure.

ie Indians, having returned thanks for the speech delivered, informed Con-  
that they had something to say on Monday next, and withdrew.

solved, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be desired to suspend  
arther execution of the request made to them on the 2d instant, to procure  
thousand wagons:

hat the wagons procured, in consequence of the said request, be sent to  
quarter-master general.

solved, That Mr. Mease be directed to return to Mr. Levy, the goods he  
from him, and receive back the money advanced on that account: the said  
s being sent for by the state of New-York, on whose account, and by  
e order, they were purchased.

ie committee of treasury reported, that there is due,

brigadier-general Thompson, for his pay for the months of October and  
ember, 250 dollars:

lieutenant Ross Currie, of the second battalion of Pennsylvania regular  
s, for the balance of his pay from March to November, inclusive, 90 dollars:

Samuel M'Kinzie, surgeon to the 2d battalion of Pennsylvania regular  
s, for 4 months' pay, at 33 dollars a month, 132 dollars.

dered, That the said accounts be paid.

ie several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

loured to ten o'clock on Monday.

#### MONDAY, December 9, 1776.

letter, of the 8th, from gen. Washington; one, of the 22d November, from  
Ward, enclosing one of the 9th of the same month, from gen. Gates; one  
e 18th of the same month, from G. Morgan, at Pittsburg; and a petition  
emonstrance from the captains and subalterns of col. Mackay's battalion;  
er, of the 17th November, from lieutenant-colonel Wilson, of the said  
lion; and a letter of the 22d November, from John Avery, at Boston,  
read:

so, a letter of the 25th November, from colonel M. Hazen, was read, and  
red to the committee on the northern army.

solved, That another member be added to the said committee:

The member chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 117 11 dollars be paid to colonel Haussegger, in full of his account for boards, &c. bought for the public service, and for his expenses.

*Resolved*, That 1000 dollars be advanced to major Ottendorff, for the purpose of recruiting his companies; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Houelman Arnold be appointed a lieutenant of the company commanded by major Ottendorf:

That 2000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of New-Jersey, for the public service; they to be accountable:

That 50,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. J. Mease, for the public service; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Risberg, the assistant quarter-master in Philadelphia, be directed to send by water to Christiana bridge, the military stores sent from the army, and that they be safely lodged there till farther orders.

*Resolved*, That 5000 dollars be advanced to Mr. Carpenter Wharton for the public service; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to give the continental officers, and all others, employed in removing the public stores from Philadelphia, whether by land or water, all the assistance in their power.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of America, and a recommendation to the several states, to appoint a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer:

The members chosen, Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Adams.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be empowered and directed to settle and pay the arrears due to colonel Hay's battalion of the flying-camp.

*Resolved*, That Thomas De Naif be appointed a lieutenant of artillery under M. Romand de Lisle.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the state of the prisoners sent from New-Jersey.

The members chosen, Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. F. L. Lee.

Whereas, in consequence of many complaints that engrossers had distressed the public, by raising salt to an exorbitant price, the council of safety of Pennsylvania, with the approbation of Congress, took the management of the affair into their hands, and have endeavoured, by as just and equal a distribution as possible of the salt imported from time to time, to supply the different parts of the country; yet, it is found upon trial, either from the artful conduct of interested persons not discovered, or from the impossibility of the thing itself, that the remedy has been ineffectual; and, on the contrary, salt continues scarcer and dearer in this port, than when no regulations have been tried: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, to take off all restraint upon the sale of salt; and give public notice, that it shall be lawful for any person to import and sell it, in such manner, and at such prices, as shall suit voluntary purchasers.

*Resolved*, That 200 dollars be advanced to Mr. Govett, assistant to the auditor-general; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That in case this Congress shall be under the necessity of removing from Philadelphia, it shall be adjourned to Baltimore.

Whereas, general Washington hath repeatedly applied, and hath yesterday renewed, his application, for an immediate reinforcement for the defence of Philadelphia, and the state of Pennsylvania;

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested, this day, to send expresses, that can be relied on, to the several counties, earnestly requesting that they march what troops they can collect, armed and provided in the best manner possible, to the army under the command of general Washington.

*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Mease be directed to furnish captain Henderson's company, of the 11th Pennsylvania battalion, with blankets and stockings.

*Resolved*, That expresses be immediately sent to the committees of the counties of Cæcil, Baltimore, Hartford, and Frederick, in Maryland, requesting that they apply, without delay, to the militia of their respective counties, and send forward, immediately, for the defence of the city of Philadelphia, and the reinforcement of general Washington's army, as many troops as possible, informing the said committees that some assistance, in the way of arms, may be furnished here, to such as have no arms to bring with them :

That an express be sent to the council of safety of Delaware, requesting them to send forward, immediately, for the purpose aforesaid, as many troops as possible, giving them the like information with respect to arms.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to take care of the arms belonging to the continent, and have them properly secured.

*Resolved*, That William Chambers be appointed captain, Alexander Wilson, first lieutenant, and Adam Hoops, second lieutenant, in the 3d battalion of the regiment commanded by colonel M. Hazen.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### TUESDAY, December 10, 1776.

A letter, of the 8th, from general Lee, at Morristown ; one, of the 9th, from general Washington, with a letter, of the 6th, from general Heath, were read.

*Resolved*, That the prisoners sent from the state of New-Jersey by general Washington, and ordered to Fredericktown, in Maryland, be conveyed there by captain Mountjoy Baily, with a guard of 18 soldiers :

That the said guard be furnished with arms, cartridges, knapsacks, and blankets :

That 100 dollars be advanced to the committee of the middle district of Frederick county, to defray the charges of conveying the prisoners there, and the expense of furnishing rations to the prisoners and the guard ; the said committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That general Mifflin be directed to repair immediately to the neighboring counties, and, by all the means in his power, rouse and bring them in, to the defence of Philadelphia.

As the Congress deem it of great importance to the general good and safety, that general Mifflin should make a progress through the several counties of the state of Pennsylvania, to rouse the freemen thereof, to the immediate defence of this city and county,

*Resolved*, That the assembly be requested to appoint a committee of their body to make the said tour with general Mifflin, in order to assist him in this good and necessary work.

*Resolved*, That the president return to Congress the 25,000 dollars received for the use of the marine committee.

*Resolved*, That major general Putnam be directed to have the several recruits, and other continental troops in Philadelphia, immediately paraded, and that he proceed, without delay, to make the proper defences for the protection and security of this city :

That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to give major general Putnam all the assistance in their power, for the execution of the above necessary business, by calling forth the inhabitants, and by any other means in their judgment proper.

*Resolved*, That 2,000 dollars be advanced to the delegates of Georgia, for the use of that state, which is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That 135.30 dollars be paid to Robert Patton, for his services as messenger, from the 15th of May to the 4th of December, instant.

The committee appointed to prepare an address to the inhabitants of America, brought in a draught, which was read ; and, being debated by paragraphs was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said committee have it published and dispersed.

The committee of treasury reported, that there should be advanced to Mrs. Stevenson the sum of two hundred dollars on account of her husband, James Stevenson, one of the commissioners of accounts ; he to be accountable :

That there is due to John Montgomery and Jasper Yates, commissioners of Indian affairs in the middle department, for their account of debts due to sundry persons on the visit of the Indian chiefs from Pittsburg to Congress, 1178.24 dollars :

To the rev. Mr. Fowler, Indian missionary, being a balance due to him for his services at the treaty with the Indians at Pittsburg, 36 dollars :

To John Gibson, esq. for eight months' house-rent for the treasury office, as auditor general, to the 9th instant, wood for the use of the office, &c. &c. the sum of 369.61 dollars :

To St. Luke la Corn, captain Frazer, and major Campbell, for the allowance for themselves and three servants, from 24th September to 3d December, 90 dollars ; the same to be paid to col. Donald Campbell :

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the president write to general Washington, and desire him to send a party to watch the roads leading from New-Jersey to Philadelphia, above Trenton, and give Congress the earliest notice of the enemy's motions.

*Resolved*, That 2,000 dollars be advanced to lieutenant-colonel Antil, for the purpose of recruiting the battalion commanded by colonel Moses Hazen ; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That two of the continental battalions, now raising in Connecticut, be stationed for the defence of the said state in such parts thereof as governor Trumbull shall judge most conducive to that purpose, till Congress shall order otherwise.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer, upon the order of the government of Connecticut, pay out of the first moneys which shall be received into the loan office in that state, 40,000 dollars ; the said state to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

*Resolved*, That Antoine Seelim be appointed a captain of a rifle company in the corps commanded by major Ottendorf.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

### WEDNESDAY, December 11, 1776.

The committee appointed to prepare a resolution for appointing a day of fasting and humiliation, brought in a report, which was read and agreed to, as follows :

Whereas, the war in which the United States are engaged with Great-Britain, has not only been prolonged, but is likely to be carried to the greatest extremity ; and whereas, it becomes all public bodies, as well as private persons, to reverence the Providence of God, and look up to him as the supreme disposer of all events, and the arbiter of the fate of nations ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all the United States, as soon as possible, to appoint a day of solemn fasting and humiliation ; to implore of Almighty God the forgiveness of the many sins prevailing among all ranks, and to beg the countenance and assistance of his Providence in the prosecution of the present just and necessary war.

The Congress do also, in the most earnest manner, recommend to all the members of the United States, and particularly the officers civil and military

under them, the exercise of repentance and reformation; and further, require of them the strict observation of the articles of war, and particularly, that part of the said articles, which forbids profane swearing, and all immorality, of which all such officers are desired to take notice.

It is left to each state to issue out proclamations fixing the day that appears most proper within its bounds.

*Ordered*, That the above be published by the committee who brought in the report.

A letter, of the 10th, from general Washington, at the falls of Delaware, was read.

The committee appointed to examine the prisoners sent from New-Jersey, reported, that they have performed that service, and find some considerable distinction between them; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said committee be empowered to discharge from gaol such of the said prisoners as do not appear to have been engaged in measures against the United States of America; the said prisoners first signing a declaration, that they will not hereafter engage in such measures, nor give the enemies of America aid, information, counsel, or assistance, in any way or manner whatsoever; and that such as the said committee judge proper, give security not to depart the city of Philadelphia without leave of Congress.

*Resolved*, That gen. Putnam be directed to order parties of active, spirited men, with proper guides, to cross from Philadelphia to New-Jersey; and, under the conduct of good officers, to act as harassing parties, and get the best intelligence of the motions and situation of the enemy, directing them to send frequent daily intelligence through him to Congress, of the discoveries they shall be able to make of the enemy's movements and situation.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### THURSDAY, December 12, 1776.

A letter, of the 11th, from general Washington, was read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to Gustavus Risberg, and charged to the account of R. Dallam, esq.

That 50,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, for the public service; the said council to be accountable:

That 5000 dollars be advanced to Dr. Nicholas Way, of Wilmington, for the public service; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland, be ordered to join general Washington, with all possible expedition.

*Resolved*, That the continental apothecary be directed immediately to pack up all the continental medicines, and send them to the quarter-master general:

That the quarter-master general be directed to remove all the medicines belonging to the continent in Philadelphia to a place of security:

That the frigate Randolph be put under the direction of the continental general commanding in Philadelphia, to act as he shall direct, for the defence of this city, and preventing the enemy from passing the Delaware.

*Resolved*, That 53.30 dollars be advanced to Mr. Sproat, clerk at the war office, for his services; he to be accountable.

Mr. Walton, a delegate from Georgia, attended, and produced a letter from the secretary of the convention of that state, informing him of his appointment, with others, to represent that state for the ensuing year:

*Resolved*, That he be admitted to a seat.

*Resolved*, That Elisha Sheldon be appointed lieutenant-colonel commandant of a regiment of cavalry on the continental establishment, with the rank and pay of a colonel of foot; and that general Washington be authorized to

appoint the other officers to the said regiment; and that the colonel, with his officers, proceed, without delay, to raise and discipline the said regiment; and that they repair to and join the army under the command of general Washington, by companies, as soon as each company shall be complete:

That general Washington be empowered to advance to colonel Sheldon such sums of money as may be necessary for the service.

*Resolved*, That the marine committee be directed to employ one or more fast sailing vessels, to proceed immediately on a cruise off the Capes of Delaware, and give notice to all ships and vessels inward bound of the state of this port, in order that they may proceed to some other place or places of more safety.

*Resolved*, That gen. Putnam be directed to send Dr. John Connolly under guard to Baltimore, in Maryland, there to be confined.

*Resolved*, That the continental general commanding in Philadelphia, be directed to defend the same to the utmost extremity, against the attempts of the enemy to get possession of it; and that, for this end, he apply, from time to time, to the council of safety of Pennsylvania for their aid and assistance.

*Resolved*, That Mr. R. Morris be empowered to borrow a sum, not exceeding 10,000 dollars, for the use of the marine committee; and Congress will indemnify him.

*Resolved*, That Timothy Dod be released from confinement.

*Resolved*, That the arms, ammunition, and clothing, in or near the city of Philadelphia, be put under the direction of general Putnam; and that Mr. J. Mease, and all other persons having continental stores in care, make immediate return of the same to general Putnam, of the quantities and kinds of each, and where the same are placed, that the general may take order therein, either for safety or use, as he shall judge proper.

*Resolved*, That general Putnam be authorized to employ all the private armed vessels in this harbour, for the defence and security of the city; and that he take the most effectual measures for manning them, and putting them in fit condition for the above purpose.

Major-general Putnam and Brigadier-general Mifflin being called to a conference, and having, by strong arguments, urged the necessity of the Congress retiring, it was, thereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wilson inform the assembly and council of Pennsylvania of the proposed adjournment of Congress, and the place to which they have resolved to adjourn; and acquaint them, that Congress will, at all times, on their application, be ready to comply with their requisitions for the security of this city and state against the common enemy.

Whereas the movements of the enemy have now rendered the neighborhood of this city the seat of war, which will prevent that quiet and uninterrupted attention to the public business, which should ever prevail in the great continental council:

*Resolved*, That this Congress be, for the present, adjourned to the town of Baltimore, in the state of Maryland, to meet on the 20th instant, unless a sufficient number to make a Congress shall be there sooner assembled; and that, until the Congress shall otherwise order, general Washington be possessed of full power to order and direct all things relative to the department, and to the operations of war: and that the several matters to this day referred, be postponed to the day to which Congress is adjourned.

BALTIMORE.

FRIDAY, December 20, 1776.

Congress met according to adjournment.

The delegates from Georgia produced the credentials of their appointment, which were read as follows:

**" IN CONVENTION, SAVANNAH, October 9, 1776.**

**" The convention proceeded to ballot for delegates to represent this state in the Continental Congress for the year ensuing: when, on closing the poll, it appeared that John Houston, Lyman Hall, Button Gwinnett, George Walton, and Nathan Brownson, esqs. were duly elected, and declared so accordingly.**

**A true copy from the minutes,**

**EDWARD LANGWORTHY, *Secretary.*"**

**Sundry letters were laid before Congress and read, viz.**

**Three from general Washington, of the 12th, 13th, and 15th; one, of the 13th, from general Sullivan; four, from R. Morris, at Philadelphia, of the 13th, 14th, 16th, and 17th; one, of the 8th, from general Wooster:**

***Ordered,* That they be referred to a committee of four:**

**The members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.**

***Resolved,* That Benjamin Griffith be appointed to supply the prisoners from North-Carolina with provisions, clothing, blankets, and fuel, sufficient to protect them from the inclemency of the weather; and that the apartments, in which they are confined, be glazed, and in other respects secured from the weather, so that the health of the prisoners may be preserved, and they experience that humanity which hath ever marked the conduct of this Congress to its prisoners.**

***Resolved,* That the president write to general Washington, and desire him to send a flag to general Howe, and enquire in what manner general Lee, who has been taken prisoner, is treated: and if he finds that he is not treated agreeable to his rank and character, to send a remonstrance to general Howe on the subject; and farther, to enquire of general Howe whether he will grant permission to send general Lee such supplies of money as may be necessary to support him, during his confinement, in a manner suitable to his rank in the service of the United States:**

**That the president also write to Mr. R. Morris, and request him to send 100 half-johannes to general Washington for the use of general Lee.**

**The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.**

**SATURDAY, December 21, 1776.**

**A letter, of the 1st of October last, from S. Deane, esq. also, one of the 19th, from the committee of Frederick county, with sundry resolutions passed by the said committee, respecting the marching of the militia of that county, to join general Washington, were read.**

**Congress being informed that a number of prisoners were arrived at Baltimore from Philadelphia:**

***Resolved,* That the committee of Baltimore town be requested to secure, in a convenient room, under a guard, the said prisoners, except the two Goodrichs, who are to be committed to gaol; that Mr. B. Griffith be empowered to supply them with provisions and other things absolutely necessary for them, until farther orders of Congress.**

***Resolved,* That 6000 dollars be advanced to colonel Thomas Price, for the purpose of recruiting his battalion; he to be accountable.**

**The committee of treasury reported, that they have had under consideration the account of colonel W. Richardson for guarding the continental treasury from Philadelphia to Baltimore; that the expense of the guard, with provender for the teams, amounts to 378.83 dollars; that he credits 300 dollars received by a warrant on the treasurer, and that there remains due to the said colonel W. Richardson, 78.83 dollars:**

***Ordered,* That the said account be paid.**

A letter, of the 15th, from general Armstrong, at Philadelphia, was read :

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

The committee to whom were referred the letters from general Washington and Mr. Morris, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That proper magazines of provisions for the army be immediately formed in or near Pennsylvania, and that Congress approve of the general's sending general Armstrong to fix upon the most secure and convenient places for such magazines, to animate the militia, and facilitate the recruiting service in Pennsylvania:

That Congress approve of general Washington's sending general Smallwood to Maryland, to encourage and promote the speedy raising of the new levies therein; and that general Smallwood be requested to use his utmost endeavors in executing that business:

That Robert Morris, George Clymer, and George Walton, esqrs. be a committee of Congress, with powers to execute such continental business as may be proper and necessary to be done at Philadelphia:

That 200,000 dollars be immediately sent to Mr. J. Mease, subject to the disposition of the said committee, for providing the militia going into service; for paying the soldiers from Ticonderoga, and for such other public uses as they shall think proper:

That if the above sum should be insufficient, the said committee have power to call on the commissioner of the loan-office, in Pennsylvania, for such farther sums, as the continental service there may demand:

That the said committee keep up a regular correspondence with Congress, informing them, from time to time, of their proceedings herein:

That the resolve respecting the appointment of this committee, and its powers, be transmitted to Messieurs Morris, Clymer, and Walton, by Mr. President; and that he inform the said gentlemen, that Congress approve their care of the public business as signified in Mr. Morris's letters. Also, that Mr. Morris be informed, that Congress highly approve his plan of fitting the continental frigates at Philadelphia regularly for sea, with all possible expedition:

That Mr. Secretary Peters be directed, by the board of war, to repair to Baltimore as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That 19,000 dollars be advanced to Mr. John Boyd, pay-master of colonel Mackay's battalion, for the use of the said battalion; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That two chaplains be appointed to Congress, and that Monday next be assigned for electing them.

Congress took into consideration the letter from the committee of Frederick county: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That 18,000 dollars be transmitted to the committee of Frederick, for the use of the militia of the counties of Frederick, Washington, and Montgomery, who march to reinforce general Washington; the said committee to be accountable:

That the said committee transmit to general Washington a particular account of the money advanced to the militia.

*Resolved*, That officers of troops inlisted for three years, or during the war, receive pay on the new establishment, from the time of their being appointed by their respective dates, in consequence of the resolution of Congress passed the 16th of September last.

*Resolved*, That such alteration be made in the rations of the Virginia troops as the governor and council of that state shall direct, provided the expense does not exceed that of the ration established for the continental army.

*Resolved*, That 3000 dollars be advanced to colonel W. Richardson for the purpose of recruiting his regiment; he to be accountable.

*l*, That Mr. Hooper be empowered to examine into the state of the Carolina prisoners, and have such of them as are sick, removed to a house, and kept under guard; and that he provide a physician to attend.

*d*, That general Washington be directed to pay the militia that may be in his army, in the same manner as his other troops are paid; and that, on discharge, one penny a mile be allowed in lieu of rations, to support their march to their respective places of abode.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock on Monday.

**MONDAY, December 23, 1776.**

able to the order of the day, Congress elected the reverend Mr. P. Allen and the reverend Mr. W. White, chaplains.

*d*, That Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Hooper, inform the gentlemen of their appointment, and desire their attendance.

Mr. Hooper having reported, that the present situation of the prisoners is disagreeable and dangerous to their health, on account of the prison being in need of repair, it was, thereupon,

*rd*, That until the apartments in the jail of the town of Baltimore be repaired, and put in such a condition as not to endanger the health of those who are confined in them, the prisoners from the state of North-Carolina be removed thence to different rooms in the court-house, or wherever else may be procured, and there safely locked up and secured; and that the committee of inspection of the said town, be requested to direct proper apartments for their reception, and from time to time, keep up a good and sufficient guard over them; and, in order to secure them more effectually, that the prisoners be made to their own voluntary proposal, shall be upon their parole not to make attempts to escape from confinement, nor interfere in the present war with Great-Britain, by carrying on any correspondence, conversation, or communication, with the enemies of America; and that during their confinement, Mr. Griffith, who, by a late resolve of Congress, was directed to supply the prisoners when confined in gaol, continue to supply and accommodate them with necessaries for their support.

*ed*, That Robert Patton be appointed door-keeper, and James Long, clerk, to Congress.

*ed*, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing skilful persons to be sent to examine the Salisbury and Mr. Livingston's founderies, agreeable to the resolution of the 28th of November last.

*ed*, That Mr. John Boyd, the pay-master of colonel Mackay's battalion, be empowered to receive from Mr. William Smith, at Hanover, such a quantity of shoes as may be wanted for the use of the said battalion.

*ed*, That the assemblies, conventions, committees or councils of safety, and other persons that are or may be entrusted with money for the militia, or for the armies of the United States, transmit the receipts of the officers receiving the same to the pay-master or deputy pay-master general of the respective armies; who are hereby directed to make proper stoppages, and to issue certificates of the delivery of such receipts, specifying therein, the names of the persons signing them, the dates and sums mentioned in the same, and the persons to whom the receipts were given; which certificates shall be received by the commissioners of the treasury as sufficient vouchers for discharging the respective accounts from the sums expressed in the same.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, returned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**TUESDAY, December 24, 1776.**

A letter, of the 20th, from the council of safety of Pennsylvania; one, of the 21st, from Mr. R. Morris; one, of the 10th, from general Schuyler, with sundry papers enclosed, were received and read:

*Resolved*, That the last be referred to the committee on the affairs of the northern army.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the said committee:

The members chosen, Mr. Heyward, and Mr. Whipple.

*Resolved*, That 200,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pennsylvania, for the public service; the said council to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Hillegas, the treasurer, be empowered to employ proper persons to sign the bills which remain unsigned in the treasury, and that he return their names to Congress.

*Resolved*, That a letter be immediately written by Mr. President to the assemblies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and Connecticut, informing them, of the critical state of the fortress of Ticonderoga and the other posts in that quarter; and the extreme danger of general Carlton's possessing himself of that fortress as soon as Lake-Champlain shall be so frozen, as to be capable of bearing horses: that, by a letter from general Schuyler, Congress is informed, that the troops, now occupying those posts, will not tarry after the 31st of this month; and, in the most pressing terms, urging the necessity of hastening up troops, from their respective states, with the utmost despatch, in the following proportions, viz. 2500 from Massachusetts-Bay, 1500 from Connecticut, and 500 from New-Hampshire, making 4500; informing them, that Congress desire they will not wait till the several corps are completed; and that there is now a plentiful stock of provisions at Ticonderoga, and nothing to fear from the enemy till the lake shall be frozen, as abovementioned.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the committee appointed on the 17th of October for the better regulating the treasury board:

The members chosen, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Ellery.

*Resolved*, That 533 30 dollars be advanced to Thomas Nichols, deputy quarter-master general, for the public service, and charged to the account of brigadier-general Mifflin, quarter-master general, to whom said Nichols, who is an officer in his department, is to be accountable.

Sundry French letters were laid before Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That the said letters be referred to the committee for procuring cannon.

*Resolved*, That a member be added to the said committee.

The member chosen, Mr. Lewis.

*Resolved*, That two other magazines of ammunition, in addition to that agreed to on the 21st, be formed, one in the eastern states, and one in the southern states:

*Ordered*, That the delegates of the eastern states confer together, and also those of the southern states, and fix upon proper places, and report to Congress on Thursday next.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock on Thursday next.

**THURSDAY, December 26, 1776.**

Sundry letters were read, viz.

One, of the 16th, from general Washington, with an extract of a letter from commissary-general Trumbull:

One, of the 13th, from commissary-general Trumbull at Morristown:

One, of the 8th, from governor Cooke:

One, of the 20th, from general Washington, with a plan for the establishment of artillery, and a memorandum:

the 21st, from general N. Green :  
 of the 22d, from the council of safety of Pennsylvania, with sundry  
 from Ticonderoga :  
 of the 2d, from colonel Anthony Wayne, at Ticonderoga, with sundry  
 closed :  
 of the 6th, from colonel J. Wood, at ditto :  
 of the 23d, from Samuel Washington, of Berkley county, Virginia :  
 of the 10th, from colonel John Brown, of Albany, with papers enclosed :  
 a letter from Donald M'Leod, Alexander M'Leod, Kenneth M'Donald,  
 petition from Thomas Slater, prisoners.  
 ed, That 400,000 dollars be advanced to Joseph Trumbull, esq. com-  
 general ; he to be accountable.  
 ed, That J. Trumbull, esq. commissary-general, be empowered to im-  
 the continental risk, from Virginia and Maryland, and the other south-  
 s, such quantities of flour and other provisions as he may judge neces-  
 the support of the army.  
 ed, That the delegates of Virginia be empowered and directed to  
 the governor and council of their state, and request them to contract  
 per persons for the delivery of 10,000 barrels of flour on James, York,  
 nnock, and Potomac rivers, to the order of Joseph Trumbull, com-  
 general, or of a larger quantity should he require a further supply ;  
 Joseph Trumbull to send vessels to take it in, and to pay for, or draw  
 the president of Congress for the payment of the same.  
 ed, That the letters read be referred to a committee of the whole :  
 ess then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into  
 ation the letters ; and, after some time spent thereon, the president re-  
 the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have had un-  
 deration the letters to them referred ; but, not having had time to  
 esire leave to sit again to-morrow at ten o'clock.  
 ed, That this Congress will, to-morrow, at ten o'clock, resolve itself  
 mmittee of the whole, to take into consideration the letters read this  
 ed, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration  
 of the army, and report thereon to-morrow morning :  
 members chosen, Mr. Richard H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. S. Adams.  
 ed, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare a plan for the  
 nducting the executive business of Congress, by boards composed of  
 not members of Congress :  
 members chosen, Mr. Whipple, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Nelson,  
 Morris.  
 everal matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
 rned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

**FRIDAY, December 27, 1776.**

ed, That 3,333.30 dollars be advanced to Mr. James Nourse, for the  
 e militia of Berkley and Frederick counties, in Virginia, who are about  
 to reinforce general Washington ; the said Mr. Nourse to be account-  
 he expenditure.  
 ed, That the resolution passed the 3d of December, granting a pair of  
 d stockings to the militia of Pennsylvania, and the same rations and  
 pay with the other troops on the continental establishment, to com-  
 om the time of their enrolment, be extended to the Virginia militia,  
 ch to reinforce general Washington.  
 y letters were read, viz. one of the 23d, from R. Morris ; one, of the  
 general Schuyler, at Saratoga ; one from Henricus Gode, of St. Eu-  
 November 30th : one, of the 18th, from Richard Dallam, deputy pay-

master general, at Newtown, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania; one, of the 5th, from Jonathan Trumbull; one, of the 25th November, from Joseph Trumbull; also, a petition from Faneuil and others, to the assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, and a resolution passed by the said assembly in consequence thereof.

The committee on the state of the army, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That a brigadier general of artillery be appointed; and, the ballots being taken,

Colonel Henry Knox was elected.

*Resolved*, That general Washington be empowered to use every endeavor, by giving bounties and otherwise, to prevail upon the troops, whose term of enlistment will expire at the end of the month, to stay with the army so long after that period, as its situation shall render their stay necessary:

That the new levies in Virginia, Maryland, the Delaware state, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, be ordered to march by companies, and parts of companies, as fast as they shall be raised, and join the army under general Washington, with the utmost despatch:

That the foregoing resolution be transmitted by the president to the executive powers of the states before mentioned, who are requested to carry it into execution; to appoint commissaries to precede the troops, and procure provision for them on their march; and that they be empowered to draw money for this purpose from the nearest continental pay-master:

That general Washington be empowered to appoint a commissary of prisoners, and a clothier-general for supplying the army; to fix their salaries, and return their names to Congress:

That general Washington be requested to fix upon that system of promotion in the continental army, which, in his opinion, and that of the general officers with him, will produce most general satisfaction; that it be suggested to him, whether a promotion of field-officers in the colonial line, and of captains and subalterns in the regimental line, would not be the most proper:

That Congress approve of general Washington's directing the quarter-master general to provide teams for each regiment, and for other necessary purposes:

That the 2d and 7th Virginia regiments, with all the convalescents from the other corps left in that state, and now fit for duty, be ordered to march and join the army under general Washington, with the utmost despatch, leaving the arms that they have at present, with the governor and council of that state, as they will be provided with others at the Head of Elk:

That three regiments, upon the new establishment, in North-Carolina, be ordered to march immediately to join general Washington:

That the state of Virginia be empowered to call into service, at the continental expense, three regiments of militia, or minute-men, if such a measure shall, by that state, be judged necessary.

The unjust, but determined, purpose of the British court to enslave these free states, obvious through every delusive insinuation to the contrary, having placed things in such a situation, that the very existence of civil liberty now depends on the right execution of military powers, and the vigorous, decisive conduct of these, being impossible to distant, numerous, and deliberative bodies:

✓ This Congress, having maturely considered the present crisis; and having perfect reliance on the wisdom, vigor, and uprightness of general Washington, do, hereby,

*Resolve*, That general Washington shall be, and he is hereby, vested with full, ample, and complete powers to raise and collect together, in the most speedy and effectual manner, from any or all of these United States, 16 battalions of infantry, in addition to those already voted by Congress; to appoint

for the said battalions of infantry; to raise, officer, and equip 3000 more; three regiments of artillery, and a corps of engineers, and to settle their pay; to apply to any of the states for such aid of the militia as he may judge necessary; to form such magazines of provisions, and in such places, as he shall think proper; to displace and appoint all officers under the rank of major-general, and to fill up all vacancies in every other department in the American army; to take, wherever he may be, whatever he may want for the use of the army, if the inhabitants will not sell it, allowing a reasonable price for the same; to arrest and confine persons who refuse to take the continental currency, or are otherwise disaffected to the American cause; and to require of the states of which they are citizens, their names, and the nature of their offences, together with the witnesses to prove them:

That the foregoing powers be vested in gen. Washington, for and during the next six months from the date hereof, unless sooner determined by Congress. *Resolved*, That the council of safety of Pennsylvania be requested to take such vigorous and speedy measures for punishing all such as refuse continental currency; and that the general be directed to give all necessary aid to the council of safety, for carrying their measures on this subject into effectual execution.

Mr. Tillegas having returned the names of persons by him employed to superintend the press, and to sign the bills of credit, they were agreed to; and are, superintendents of the press, Thomas Harrison, William Smithe, and John Man, junior.

Members of money, William Asquith, John Griffith, Hercules Courtney, John Jones, James Kelso, Richard Cromell, James Colhoun, George Welsh, George Barrel, Thomas Donnellan, John Boyd, Benjamin Levy, Samuel Jones, and William Govett.

*Resolved*, That 266.60 dollars be advanced to John Griffith, for the use of the soldiers in Baltimore; he to be accountable.

Several matters to this day referred, being postponed, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY, *December 28*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a circular letter to the several United States, explaining the reasons which induced Congress to enlarge the powers of general Washington, and requesting them to cooperate with him, and give him all the aid in their power:

Members chosen, Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Adams.

*Resolved*, That the five millions of dollars, which by the resolution of the 11th of November last, the treasury-board were ordered to prepare and have ready for emission, be now emitted on the faith of the United States.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety of the state of Maryland, be, and they are, requested, to furnish Mr. John Griffith with fifty blankets for the use of the sick soldiers in Baltimore, who stand in immediate need thereof.

*Resolved*, That 400 dollars be advanced to colonel Carvill Hall, for the use of his battalion; he to be accountable.

A committee, to whom the report of the gentlemen who were directed to go to Ticonderoga, and the papers therein mentioned, were referred, presented a report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of Congress, the northern army may be supplied more advantageously and conveniently, in the present mode of the commander-general's governing himself by such regulations as have been, and may from time to time, be ordained by the general or commander in chief, than by the present mode of the factors.

That the commissary-general be directed, without fail, to supply the northern army, this winter, with vegetables twice in every week, or more frequently.

quently, if possible ; and to take effectual measures that they be well supplied with vinegar :

That two large floating batteries be built on Lake-Champlain, to cover the boom and the bridge ; and that general Schuyler be desired to contract with builders for this purpose in New-York, or Massachusetts-Bay, or both, and that general Schuyler provide the materials :

That the committee for supplying cannon be directed to procure ten brass six inch howitzers, with shells, and a proper attrail, for the use of the northern army :

That a fort be constructed on Mount-Independence : that the navigation of the lake near that place be obstructed by cassoons, to be sunk in the water, at small distances from one another, and joined together by string-pieces, so as, at the same time, to serve for a bridge between the fortifications on the east and west side ; that, to prevent the enemy from drawing their small-craft over land beyond Three-Mile Point into Lake-George, the passage of that lake be also obstructed, in like manner, by cassoons from island to island in the narrows, if practicable, or by floating batteries ; that Fort Stanwix be strengthened, and other fortifications be made at proper places near the Mohawk river, and that general Schuyler, or the commanding officer of the northern army, execute these works this winter ; and that the commanding officers of artillery, chief engineer, quarter-master general, and commissary-general, provide and perform whatever things in their respective departments are necessary, or may contribute to the accomplishment thereof :

That the general court, or council, of the state of Massachusetts-Bay, be requested to procure such a quantity of oakum, and any other articles, as general Schuyler, who is desired to write to them on the subject, shall require ; and to forward the same to such places as he shall direct :

That the board of war be empowered and directed to write to Philadelphia for accoutrements and necessaries to supply the six troops of light-horse ordered from Virginia.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

#### SUNDAY, December 29, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to consider the letter from general Schuyler, dated the 10th of December, be directed to send a suitable person or persons to Mr. Livingston, owner of the foundry in the state of New-York, and to governor Trumbull, under whose direction is the foundry at Salisbury ; also to the council of the state of Massachusetts-Bay, to procure such cannon and stores, as are required by the general in his said letter ; they being immediately necessary for the northern department.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing more general officers.  
The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

#### MONDAY, December 30, 1776.

A letter, of the 21st, from brigadier-general Lewis, was read ; also two letters, of the 26th and 27th, from Mr. R. Morris.

The committee, appointed to consider the letters from general Schuyler, relating to the northern army, brought in a report ; Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That gen. Schuyler, or the commanding officer of the northern army, be directed to cause an elaboratory to be erected at such place as he shall judge most convenient, to fix all the necessary ammunition for the ensuing campaign.

*Resolved*, That 15 companies, consisting of a captain or overseer, and 50 men each, be engaged, upon such terms as general Schuyler shall think just and equitable, for the batteau service : and be occasionally employed on the high-ways and other quarter-master general's department ; and that four com-

panies of carpenters, to consist of an overseer and twenty-five men each, be engaged in like manner to attend the northern army.

For the better regulating wagons in the northern army,

*Resolved*, That two wagons be allowed to each company on a march, and one wagon to the colonel, one to the lieutenant-colonel and major, one to the staff of a regiment, and one for the particular use of the director of the hospital. Each wagon to be drawn by two horses, (except that for the colonel, which is to be allowed four horses,) and subject to such orders, as shall, from time to time, be issued by the general or commanding officer.

*Resolved*, That if any commissioned or non-commissioned officer shall employ more carriages than are mentioned in the foregoing resolution, he shall not be allowed to make a public charge of it, but shall pay the customary price himself: and, on his refusal or neglect of so doing, he shall be subject to be fined by a court-martial in treble the sum; one-third part of such fine to be for the use of the owner of the wagon or other carriage so employed, and the other two-thirds to the pay-master for the public use; the part adjudged to the owner of the carriage shall be paid to him by any quarter-master on the certificate of the president of the court-martial, who shall transmit the whole fine to the pay-master, in order that the same may be deducted from the pay of the delinquent.

Congress being informed that some of the prisoners have broken out of gaol, and made their escape,

*Resolved*, That the committee of observation for Baltimore county be requested to direct immediate and strict search for the prisoners, who last night escaped from the gaol in Baltimore town; and to offer a reward for the apprehending and securing the said prisoners; and that the said committee make enquiry into the conduct of the gaoler, or any other person suspected of permitting or assisting their escape; and that they take such measures as they shall think proper to bring the offenders to punishment.

*Resolved*, That 200 dollars be paid into the hands of the committee appointed to consider the letter from gen. Schuyler of the 10th of December, for the payment of the expenses of some suitable person or persons to be sent by them to Mr. Livingston, gov. Trumbull, and the council of the state of Massachusetts-Bay, agreeable to a resolution passed yesterday; the said committee to be accountable.

The committee appointed to prepare a circular letter to the several states, reported a draught, which was read, amended, and agreed to:

*Ordered*, That copies be made, signed by the president, and transmitted to each of the United States.

It appearing to Congress that it will be extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to supply the army of the United States with bacon, salted beef, pork, soap, tallow and candles, unless the exportation thereof be prohibited; therefore,

*Resolved*, That none of the said articles, except such as may be necessary for the crew of any ship or vessel, be exported from any of these United States after the 5th day of January next, until the first day of November next, or until Congress shall take further order therein. And it is earnestly recommended to the executive powers of the several United States, to see that this resolution be strictly complied with.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be empowered to agree with, and employ, as an assistant-clerk, Mr. Nourse, late general Lee's secretary.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, December 31, 1776.

A letter, of the 27th, from general Washington, and one, of the 28th, from the committee of Congress, at Philadelphia, with sundry papers enclosed, were read.

*Resolved*, That Doctor Mackenzie be, and he is hereby authorized, to purchase such medicines as are immediately wanted for the sick soldiers belonging to the army of the United States, now in Baltimore, and return an account thereof to Congress.

*Resolved*, That general Smallwood be directed to exert his utmost endeavours, and give the necessary orders and instructions to expedite the raising the levies in the state of Maryland; and that it be earnestly recommended to the legislature and council of safety, the several committees of observation, the civil, military and militia officers of said state, and every friend of liberty, and the United States, to give general Smallwood every assistance in their power.

*Resolved*, That 300 dollars be advanced to lieut-col. Antil, of col. Hazen's battalion, for the use of the said battalion; and that the same be charged to the account of col. Hazen, who is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the requisition of general Schuyler for a supply of 60 tons of cannon-powder, and 34 tons of musket-powder, for the use of the northern army, be referred to general Washington; and that he be directed to furnish that army with such quantities of that article as can be spared.

*Resolved*, That the board of war be directed to inform general Washington of the quantities of gun-powder, belonging to the Congress on hand in the different parts of America, as far as may have come to their knowledge.

A memorial from lieutenant-colonel Antil was presented to Congress, and read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the board of war.

A letter from William Kennon, of North-Carolina, to general Lee, was read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to a committee of three:

The members chosen, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Heyward, and Mr. Harrison.

*Resolved*, That any restrictions heretofore imposed upon the exportation of staves and other lumber, except to Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British Islands, or any place under the dominion of Great-Britain, cease.

*Resolved*, That a letter be written to gen. Washington, desiring him to order the clothier-general, to send agents into each state, to buy up linens and other clothing proper for the soldiery; and that he give similar orders to the quarter-master general to pursue the same mode for procuring a sufficient quantity of tent-cloth; and that they be severally directed to apply to the states to afford all necessary assistance therein. And whereas great expense hath heretofore arisen from public agents trading against each other, the general is desired to caution the clothier-general and quarter-master general, that their agents aforesaid, fall not into the above mistake in time to come.

A memorial from John Matthewson, and others, was read; also a letter from Mr. Hughes:

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the marine committee.

An appeal being lodged against the judgment of the court of admiralty for the state of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, on the libel, *Boeck Hopkins vs. Richard Derby*:

*Ordered*, That it be received, that it may be prosecuted before the committee on appeals.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

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